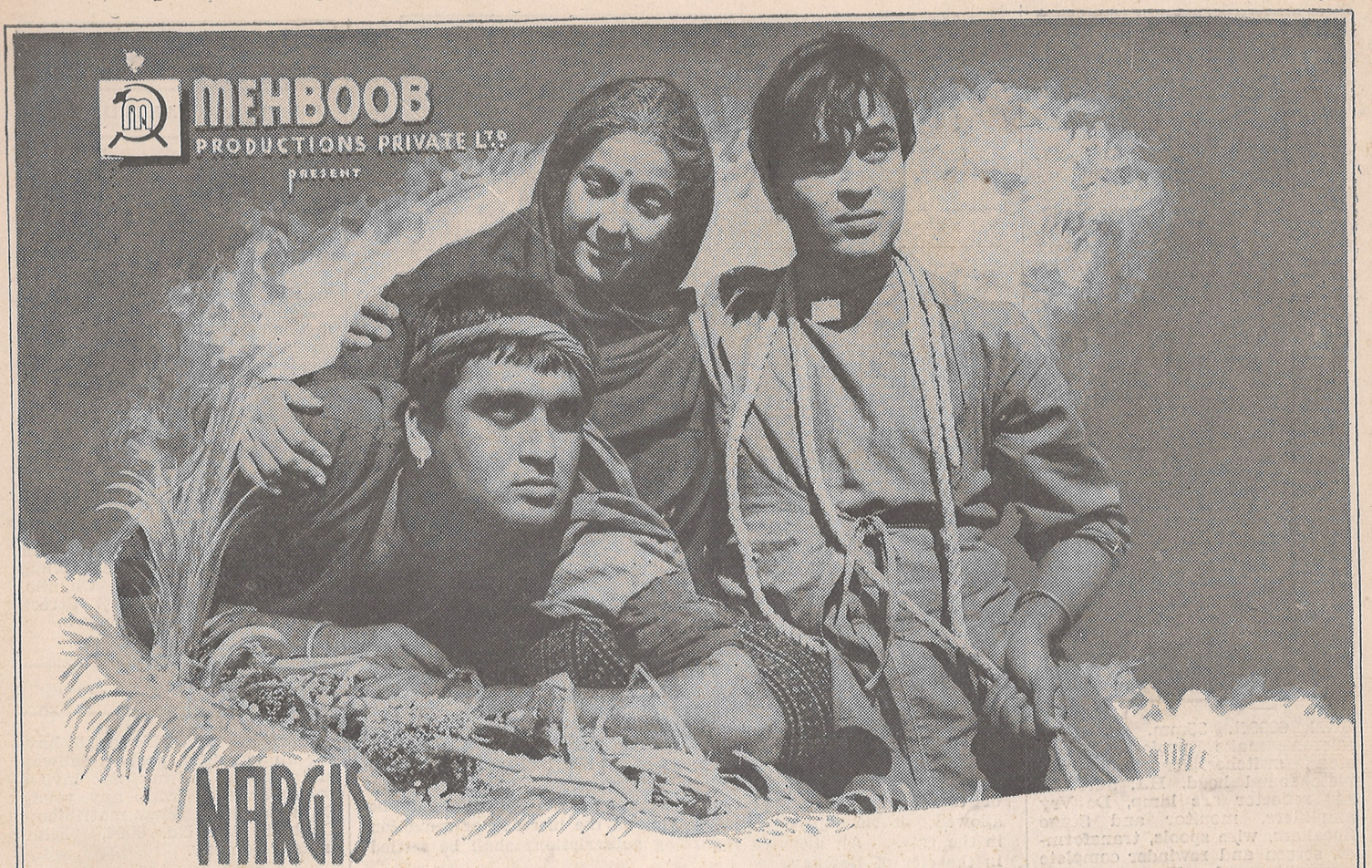
FilmIndia

March – 1958

Editor – Baburao Patel



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filmindia

Editor : B A B U R A O P A T E L

Vol XXIV MARCH, 1958 No. 3

24th YEAR OF PUBLICATION

OFFICE
55 Sir Pherozeshah Mehta Road,
Fort — Bombay — India
Tel. 26-1752

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The Pandora's Box

Haridas Mundhra, the 34-year-old Marwari multi-millionaire of Calcutta, is the hero of the year. He gave one lakh of rupees to the Congress election funds in January 1957 and took back from the Congress Government one crore of rupees by July 1957. That is a profit of Rs. 99 lakhs in seven months. That is 10,000% profit. No racehorse owner in the world has yet been lucky to get the odds of 99 to 1 on the world's darkest fluke. We have always told you that the Congress was the best bet in the world in corruption. Whatever the handicap, the Congress always wins in this field. All you need is a white cap to get into the betting ring.

We do not blame Haridas Mundhra at all. He is a multi-millionaire in business and like all capitalists his business is to make money from fools. Mundhra is a Marwari and like all Marwaris he is ambitious. Mundhra's career so far is a most thrilling romance of high finance. This man must be the glibbest salesman in the world to have fooled not only a bunch of high-placed, experienced I.C.S. officers but also a crowd of shrewd bankers, financiers and businessmen. Mundhra's empire is built on his wits and in this wicked world of hatred, jealousy and competition, Mundhra takes our salute. Perfection deserves nothing less. For being true to the creed of the average Marwari multi-millionaire, even as our Congressmen are true to their creed of corruption under their awe-inspiring motto of "Satyameva Jayate", Haridas Mundhra deserves nothing less than a Bharat Ratna. Let us hope justice is done to him on our next Independence Day. Mundhra robbed the robbers of their ill-gotten gains.

Had it not been for Haridas Mundhra, the ever-trusting people of India would have still been in blissful ignorance of the true character of the trustees Gandhiji left behind. The nation is deeply grateful to Mundhra for tearing off the mask from the faces of people who claimed sanction from heaven for their moral fads and immoral acts.

It was Feroze Gandhi, our Prime Minister's only son-in-law, who rescued Haridas Mundhra from the obscurity of his huge financial empire and brought him into the limelight of gaping public admiration. On December 16, 1957, Feroze Gandhi opened the Pandora's Box—that is our Life Insurance Corporation—in the Lok Sabha and out flew the evil genius of Haridas Mundhra followed by Finance Minnister T. T. Krishnamachari, Principal Finance Secretary H. M. Patel, Chairman G. R. Kamat, Managing Director L. S. Vaidyanathan, State Bank Chairman P. C. Bhattacharya and Reserve Bank Governor H. V. R. Iyengar.

Feroze Gandhi stated that during six months in 1957, on 19 different occasions, the Life Insurance Corporation purchased different shares of the Mundhra Group for a sum of Rs. one crore and 56 lakhs—shares, most of which, no sane investor would have touched with a tadpole's tail. He described this deal as "a conspiracy to beguile the Corporation of its funds" and stated that the sacred savings of the insured were misused for this purpose and almost gambled away. He accused the Corporation of paying excessive prices for these shares merely to help an individual at the cost of the insured, said that some of the shares purchased were forged scrips and concluded by demanding an inquiry into this questionable transaction.

The sun has already risen and the producer has the impudence to tell us that "Phir Subha Hogi". How could we have seen the highlights on those curves had the sun of youth not shed its full lustre on this charming damsel? Here is some rare upholstery which rice and potatoes conspired to create. Mala Sinha brings a rare thrill to the screen in "Phir Subha Hogi", a social theme directed by Ramesh Saigal for Parijat Pictures.

Mr. Haridas Mundhra—the best claimant for Bharat Ratna.

But Finance Minister T. T. Krishnamachari was anxious to avoid an inquiry. When pressed by all members on 16th December he said in the Lok Sabha: "I cannot commit myself to anything. I agree there should be an inquiry some time." Saying this he had almost escaped. But the scandal which concerned the life savings of millions of little men soon aroused the people and Congress politicians decided to hold an inquiry, of course, in their own manner. Krishnamachari and his henchmen were asked to arrange this. Knowing that judicial decisions can be based only on factual evidence, they wanted a judge, who would not normally understand business and account manipulations, to give a quick and favourable decision. Fearing that a panel of judges would differ and give differing judgements and create more mess unnecessarily they decided to appoint a single man.

In the selection of the judge, they first rejected an Englishman who, they thought, would give a damning decision if for nothing else at least to prove the difference in the British administration and the swadeshi one. A Calcutta judge was rejected because of the possibility of the man being influenced by powerful Bengali Communists. A Bihari judge was rejected because it was thought that he would be influenced by the anti-Krishnamachari group in Nehru's Cabinet. An Uttar Pradesh judge did not come into account at all as long as Govind Ballabh Pant lived and ruled the roost. It was considered superfluous to put the judge to all the trouble with Pant so near. A South Indian Judge was summarily ruled out on grounds of colour. Pandit Nehru, they thought, would never accept his judgement as fair, it being presumed that only a man of fair skin can give a fair decision.

The name of a well-known Punjabi judge was reported to have been quickly rejected by Krishnamachari saying: "He is not good enough even for gram-panchayat work as Baburao Patel would put it." The brilliant Principal Finance Secretary, Mr. H. M. Patel, solved the problem by suggesting the name of Mr. M. C. Chagla, the Chief Justice of Bombay. Mr. Chagla was considered fair, safe, mild, sympathetic, cosmopolitan in outlook, not unnecessarily curious about business transactions, manageable by local luminaries and yet eminent enough to be acceptable to all. A man good enough for the International Court was certainly good enough for such a Commission. But Krishnamachari had his doubts. The Forum of Free Enterprise lived in the same city as Justice Chagla. But H. M. Patel brushed that doubt aside. He said Justice Chagla had little in common with those long-nosed Parsis of the Forum. And yet it would be better to take some precautions.

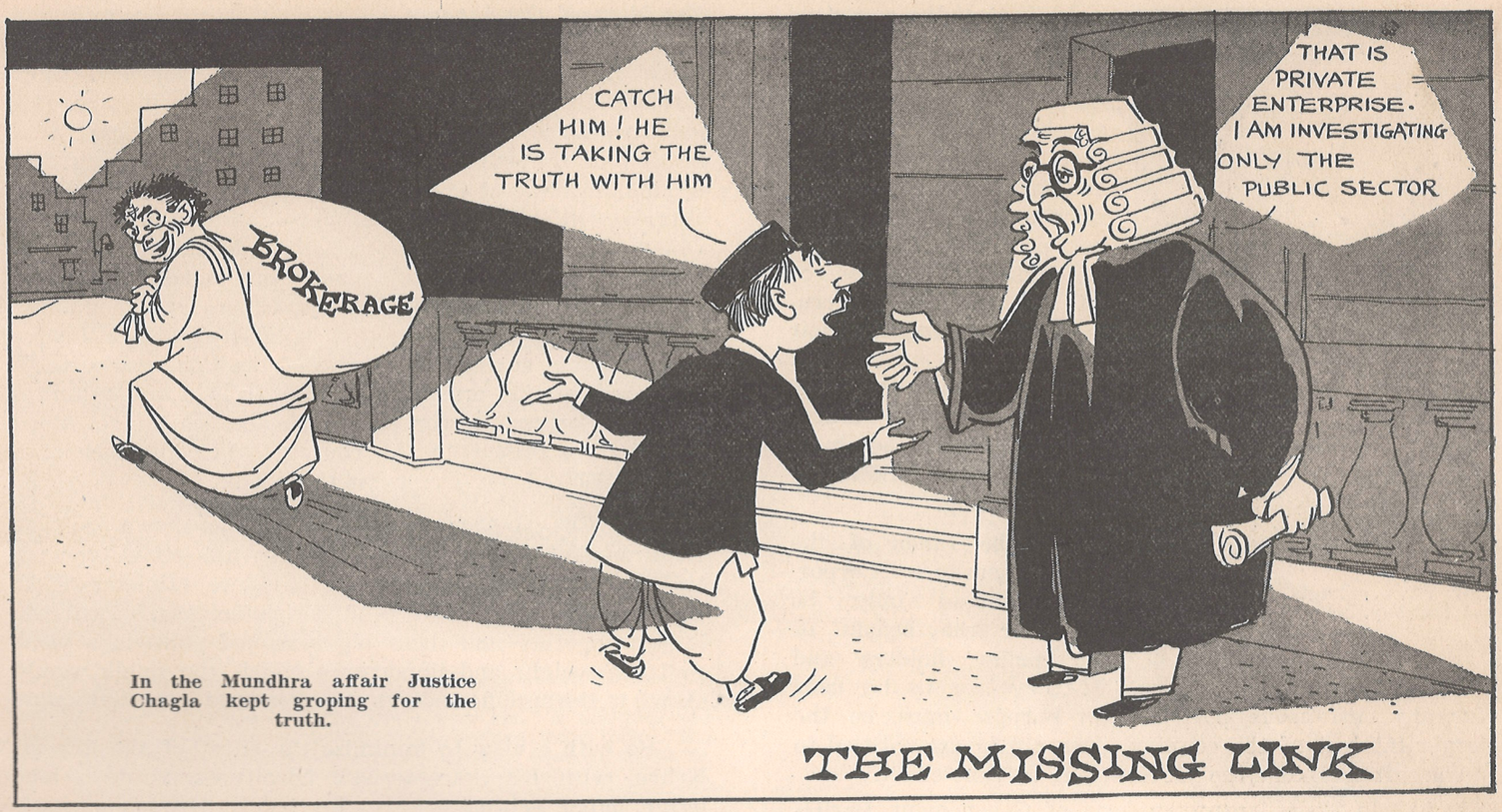
So the Finance Ministry took out its usual administrative compass and drew a small circle for the great judge to perform his judicial 'tandav'. Mr. Chagla, the one-man Commission, himself described his scope as follows:

"I have to inquire into a question which lies in a very narrow compass and that is the transactions of the Life Insurance Corporation of India relating to the purchase of shares in the six companies which are known as the Mundhra concerns. I have to ascertain whether the purchases were in accordance with normal business principles or practice. I have also to determine who was the person or persons ultimately responsible for these purchases."

Thus a great judge was tied hand and foot, blindfolded, his tongue knotted and then put up as a Daniel to find the truth. The device for sabotaging truth was complete. Now the players went into conference and rehearsed their parts, the presentation of a harmonious performance being the general idea. It was later discovered that most of them had no previous stage experience. Only Iyengar of the Reserve Bank remembered his lines which, unfortunately, did not fit in with the rest of the play.

We do not know whether Justice Chagla smelt the rat or not but saying that, "Justice can never be cloistered, it has to be administered in broad daylight", he opened the gates of his court and invited the public to share with him the responsibility of finding the truth. But truth eluded the great judge throughout the whole inquiry and when the Attorney-General Mr. M. C. Setalvad said, "We have not the whole truth about the Mundhra deal", Justice Chagla readily agreed by saying, "I have been feeling it from the first moment to the last." That is the refined manner in which a great jurist informed the world that many important persons in the Government, who had given evidence before him on oath, had merely lied and done their best to hide the truth.

In spite of all these handicaps, Justice Chagla did arrive at the right decision. While accepting Mr. H. M. Patel, the Principal Finance Secretary, as actually responsible for the transaction, Justice Chagla held that Finance Minister T. T. Krishnamachari must fully and squarely accept the responsibility for what Mr. Patel had done and if the transaction was improper and unjustified,


BROKERAGE
CATCH HIM! HE IS TAKING THE TRUTH WITH HIM
THAT IS PRIVATE ENTERPRISE. I AM INVESTIGATING ONLY THE PUBLIC SECTOR

In the Mundhra affair Justice Chagla kept groping for the truth.

THE MISSING LINK

constitutionally the responsibility was that of the Minister.

This was an absolutely correct decision and when it was delivered people felt relieved because they had also noticed an organized attempt to hide the truth throughout the proceedings.

In the course of his report, the learned judge drew certain definite conclusions. Here are some worth repeating:

1. "The real reason for buying these shares does not seem to be to stabilise the market or remove the drag or to raise the prices of these shares, but somehow or other to acquire this large block of shares at prices that were agreed upon. In other words, the object was to finance Mundhra to the extent of a crore and a quarter by the purchase of his shares."

2. "The other aspect of this transaction which raises serious doubts as to its propriety is the haste with which it was effected. I could not help feeling as I was listening to the evidence that there was a sense of urgency about this transaction. The transaction was negotiated and effected by hurried meetings held in the Reserve Bank while Mr. Patel was busy with more important questions of public importance.....it is clear that there was some compelling reason, some motivating force which was driving all these actors into this precipitate action."

3. "We have this extraordinary position here that not only a large bulk of shares is purchased at a price fixed on a basis which is unwarranted by any business principle, but even that basis is not adhered to, in some cases even more than that basis has been paid."

4. "There can be no doubt that the leading part in bringing about this transaction was taken by Mr. Patel. Even the letters written by Mr. Mundhra offering to sell the shares and containing other offers are addressed to him and he asked Mr. Mundhra to communicate these orders to him rather than to Mr. Kamat of the Life Insurance Corporation. It is also clear on the evidence that at the meetings held with Mr. Mundhra in the Reserve Bank, his was the dominating personality. Even the alterations made in the offer of Mr. Mundhra, contained in the letter of June 23, are in his handwriting."

5. "The transaction also suffers from this serious blemish that it was effected without consulting the Investment Committee."

6. "If the funds have been utilized unsoundly and imprudently, the Corporation and its executive officers must be held responsible. In fact both Mr. Vaidyanathan and Mr. Kamat failed to exercise the responsibility."

7. "As far as Mr. Iyengar, the Governor of the Reserve Bank, is concerned, his evidence is purely negative (How polite Justice Chagla can be). He said that no conversation took place between Mr. Patel and the Minister within his hearing. I would prefer to accept the positive evidence of Mr. Patel and Mr. Bhattacharya, especially as Mr. Patel's version is strongly supported by the probabilities of the case and also certain subsequent events....."

In concluding the report, Justice Chagla suggested seven principles for future conduct of the Life Insurance Corporation:

1) The Government should not interfere with the working of autonomous statutory corporations, that if they wish to interfere, they should not shirk the responsibility of giving directions in writing.

2) Chairmen of Corporations like the L.I.C. which has to deal with investments in a large way, should be appointed from persons who have business and financial experience and who are familiar with the ways of stock exchange.

Mr. M. C. Chagla, Chief Justice of Bombay. Nehru's bluff did not shake him.

3) That if the executive officers of the Corporation are to be appointed from the Civil Services, it should be impressed upon them that they owe a duty and loyalty to the Corporation and that they should not permit themselves to be influenced by senior officials of the Government or surrender their judgement to them. If they feel that they are bound to obey the orders of these officials, they must insist on these orders being in writing.

4) The funds of the Life Insurance Corporation should only be used for the benefit of the policy holders and not for extraneous purpose. If they are to be used for any extraneous purpose that purpose must be the larger interest of the country. The public are entitled to an assurance from the Government to that effect.

5) In a parliamentary form of Government, Parliament must be taken into confidence by the Ministers at the earliest stage and all relevant facts and material must be placed before it. This would avoid difficulties and embarrassment being caused at a later stage when Parliament gets the necessary information from other sources.

6) The Minister must take full responsibility for the acts of his subordinates. He cannot be permitted to say that his subordinates did not reflect his policy or acted contrary to his wishes or directions.

7) The Government should immediately apply to the Corporation Section 27-A of the Life Insurance Act of 1938, modified as circumstances require, to carry out the solemn statutory assurance given by the Life Insurance Corporation.

The Chagla Commission began its work on January 20, 1958 and its Report was placed in Lok Sabha on February 13, 1958. During these 24 days the public saw the pathetic spectacle of some of the top officials prevaricating, openly lying and contradicting one another in a grand effort to suppress the truth—all officials of a "Satyameva Jayate" "Welfare" State. People enjoyed the excitement even though they paid over a crore of rupees as entertainment tax.

The first attempt to queer the pitch of the Chagla Commission was made by no less a person than Prime Minister Nehru himself. Nehru arrived in Bombay two days after Mr. M. C. Setalvad, the Attorney-General, had concluded his summing up of the evidence. Mr. Setalvad had put the constitutional responsibility squarely on the shoulders of the Finance Minister. Nehru naturally did not like this. To express his displeasure, Nehru as usual made the people his scapegoat and admonished them strongly for their morbid enthusiasm in the inquiry. He suddenly discovered a lack of decorum on the part of a section of the public and expressed himself strongly in a public meeting at Chowpatty on February 3, 1958. From this day till the 13th of February—the day on which the Chagla Report was submitted to Lok Sabha—everyone thought that Nehru had openly sabotaged the Chagla Commision by expressing his displeasure at the manner it was being conducted. People also felt that Justice Chagla would submit to the will of the Congress dictator and produce the proverbial mouse from a mountain in labour. Fortunately for the people Justice Chagla stood this flank attack with the courage and conscience of a Daniel. He did not disappoint the people.

The Chagla Commission Report was flown to New Delhi on 10th February 1958. Nehru himself is reported to have handed it over first to Finance Minister T. T. Krishnamachari. Nehru and Krishnamachari read the Report together and these big seasoned politicians knew well the weight and importance which the public would attach to the specific findings of a great and impartial judge.

So with a view to minimize the effect of the Report, Nehru, with his characteristic adroitness, wrote a love letter, dated February 11, to his buddy, Krishnamachari, accepting the latter's resignation submitted on 5th February 1958. Here are some passages from this historic love letter which are calculated to belittle the importance of Justice Chagla's findings:

(a) "As the enquiry proceeded it struck me as it struck many others, that this manner of approach (Whose approach had he in mind?) to a complicated problem was hardly satisfactory..... It was neither judicial nor capable otherwise of eliciting all the facts. The Government was naturally interested in all the facts being brought out and the truth established (Why did he not then order a regular police investigation?). It was no party to the dispute. But curiously Government policies were referred to in the course of the inquiry without the Government having any chance to explain them". (We thought all the witnesses, except Mundhra and a couple of business folks, were Government "policy-holders". What is Nehru's definition of a Government? Didn't his Finance Minister represent his Government?)

(b) "In effect, there was rather a one-sided presentation of facts." (But all these "facts" were created by the Government boys. Who stopped these boys from presenting the other side of the facts?")

(c) "This whole episode has been a painful ordeal to me, as it has been to you, and I have given much anxious thought to it". (This pain between two lovers hurts us too but then why was the Commission appointed at all? The scandal could have been buried like the Jeep

Every necklace is a noose which a man puts round a woman's neck in an attempt to make her his slave. But when a woman breaks away she takes even the noose with her. A necklace has not yet choked a woman though it has ruined many men. We don't know whose hands those are but Krishna Kumari seems to like the necklace in "Mukti", a romantic tale directed by M. Bali.

Scandal and a requiem mass said over it without giving pain to any one).

(d) "So far as you are concerned, I am myself convinced (And we thought the Commission was appointed to convince Justice Chagla) that your part in this matter was of the smallest and that you did not even know much that was done." (Love is blind, they say. Don't they?)

Nehru did not rest with this. To show how completely he resented the Chagla Report, on February 19, he placed a special I.A.F. plane at the disposal of his ex-Finance Minister and went to the airport early morning with his daughter and several members of his Cabinet to give a warm and affectionate send-off to Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari. Prominent among those present at the airport were: Mr. Morarji Desai, Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri, Mr. A. P. Jain, Mr. Krishna Menon, Mr. S. K. Patil (Sadoba will never miss a funeral), Mr. V. T. Krishnamachari, Mr. A. Chanda, Mr. N. R. Pillai, Mr. A. K. Roy—the Revenue Chief—and numerous industrialists who were previously informed of the Prime Minister's personal send-off.

Somehow Nehru never thought of special I.A.F. planes or special send-offs when his previous Finance Ministers, Dr. John Matthai and Chintaman Deshmukh, left. We wonder whether Nehru even cared to shake hands with them. Nehru seems to have forgotten even Deshmukh's face these days.

But in spite of all attempts by Nehru to belittle the findings of Justice Chagla and sabotage his Report, the debates in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha showed clearly which way the wind was blowing.

Bhupesh Gupta, the leader of the Communist group, said the following things in Rajya Sabha on 18th February 1958:

(1) "In 10 years of the Congress regime corruption had reached alarming proportions and it was shielded by the party in power and people in some high position. There are men at the top who directly participate in corrupt practices and some of the Ministers are liable to this charge." (Nehru did not take up this challenge).

(2) "The Government is not interested in tackling speculators and traducers but in persecuting political opponents in the country." (The present persecution of Baburao Patel by the Tax Department amply proves this).

(3) "The Chagla Report has shown that the Government should shed its illusions that everything is fine at the top and that I.C.S. officials are the perfect men on earth.

"The report has revealed a whole bunch of I.C.S. officers, indulging in puppet dance the moment Mundhra appears on the scene. Is this the story of efficiency and devotion to service?"

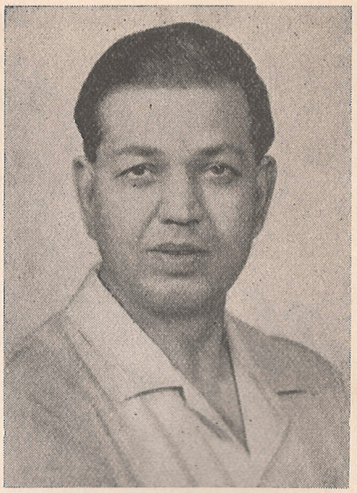
(4) "The Government should have moral courage to face up complaints of corruption on the part of high officials. It was

demoralizing to hear that the Chief Minister of a State had left one crore of rupees on his death. Such things are being mentioned but nothing is being done about them."

For the first time we fully agree with a Communist. Sometimes even truth helps Communism and we cannot help it. Not one statement of Bhupesh Gupta was challenged by Nehru. This Communist was not the only one who attacked Congress corruption. Acharya Kripalani, Dr. H. N. Kunzru, Mr. H. D. Raja, Mr. Ashok Mehta, Mr. M. R. Masani and many others did not mince words while taking part in the debate over the L.I.C. scandal.

Feroze Gandhi, Nehru's son-in-law, once again surprised the members of the Lok Sabha by producing on February 20, 1958, during the debate, a note written by Finance Minister T. T. Krishnamachari to Principal Finance Secretary H. M. Patel on April 15, 1957, the time when the first lot of Mundhra shares were bought by the Corporation. Here are some interesting extracts from this note:

1) "I am very sorry to say that my visit to the Corporation and certain sections of the zonal offices for two days has not left me with a feeling of satisfaction that things are all right. In the first place the head office organization wants a lot of brushing up. Mr. Kamath showed me about my direction to Mr. Rajagopalan more than two days ago, that Mr. Rajagopalan had taken no action. I consider it to be a grave dereliction of duty. I am not sure whether in the circumstances Rajagopalan is suitable to continue as Managing Director in the Corporation.



Mr. H. V. R. Iyengar, Governor of the Reserve Bank. His evidence was purely negative. Evidently a believer in purity!

"On all accounts Mr. Vaidyanathan is useless. He was never very good in the best of times and I suppose he is actually senile. (But this senile man has been allowed to buy shares worth Rs. 11 crores of over 1500 companies since March 1956. Let us hope all these shares are also not found senile. This is the same man who paid more prices for Mundhra shares than even Mundhra demanded. One may well ask, "Why?") Mr. Vohra, the Executive Director, whom I dealt with in your presence, is perhaps a typical example of the efficiency in the Corporation. Mr. B. K Shah told me that Mr. Vohra was not good in the New India Organization. He said that he was glad to get rid of him. I do not know how many Vohras there are in the Corporation. Mr. Vohra has to go and he will have to be the first casualty. I do not know his terms of appointment, but this matter will have to be looked into."

On September 9, 1957, the Finance Minister sent another note to the Principal Finance Secretary Mr. H. M. Patel in which both Mr. Vaidyanathan and Mr. Vohra featured again as follows:

"I had indicated that I did not want that any extension should be given to Mr. Vaidyanathan and I also mentioned Mr. Vohra's services as a director should be terminated. I now understand Vaidyanathan has been given an extension for one year. I would like an explanation to be called for from L.I.C. as to how an extension was given in spite of my specific instructions to the contrary."

Feroze Gandhi said that the L.I.C. never gave a reply to the Finance Minister and we may now state that both Mr. Vaidyanathan and Mr. Vohra still continue to enjoy their posts in spite of the present scandal.

Now what can be said of such a shameless institution? The right procedure in a democratic government would have been the immediate suspension of all the actors in this tragic play right from the Finance Minister down to the Vohras and Bohras of Life insurance, prior to the Chagla Commission. Their suspension would have brought us much nearer the truth. On the other hand these people

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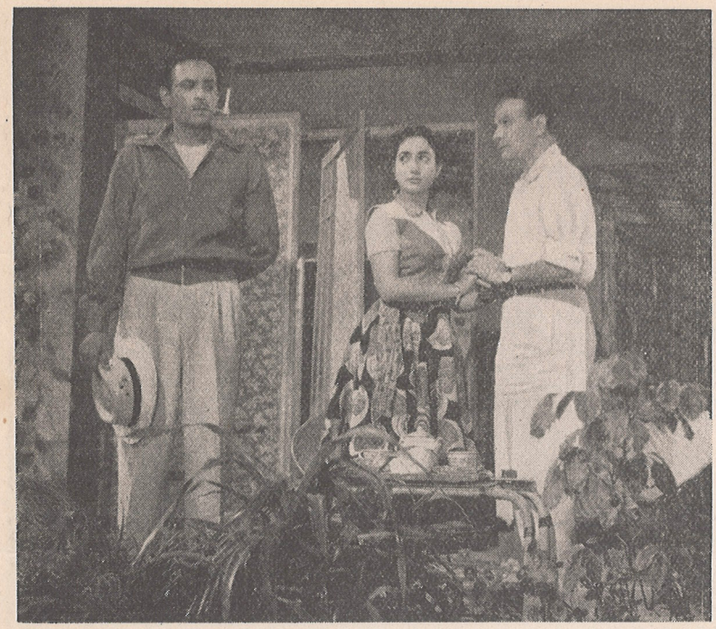


When the wrong man comes on the scene at the wrong moment, there is murder in the eyes of the right man. But wrong men never care for the feelings of right men so long as they chase the right women. Here are Umesh, Shakila and Motilal in an intriguing situation in "Hathkadi", a gripping tale produced by D. S. Films.

are allowed to continue in their jobs after all this expose. We won't be surprised if complete files will now disappear and all the footprints and finger-prints destroyed. The further inquiry, which Nehru has so graciously promised, will thus again prove infructuous. We understand that new rehearsals are furiously going on for the second act of the play and when the police come on the scene they will find the horse in the stable missing.

We again advise our readers to pay up their policies or obtain cash by surrendering them. Mr. Vaidyanathan has invested Rs. 11 crores in one year in 1500 firms and Mr. Vaidyanathan has been called senile by an intelligent man like Mr. Krishnamachari. What is urgently needed is a thorough probe into the investments and the administration of the Life Corporation of India. Without this probe we shall never know what actual cash is left in the coffers of the Corporation. And till we know this how can we accept that our money is in safe-keeping? The "Current" has already reported a case, in its issue of 5th February 1958, that a cheque of Rs. 19,000|- issued by the L.I.C. in settlement of a death claim in Calcutta bounced back uncashed—which means that many more Mundhras have been adopted as wards by the L.I.C.

It seems to us that all cash resources have already disappeared and in their anxiety to hide this tragic fact, the Government are not very keen to appoint another Commission to probe into the investments and administration of the Life Insurance Corporation—the only natural sequel to the Chagla Commission Report.

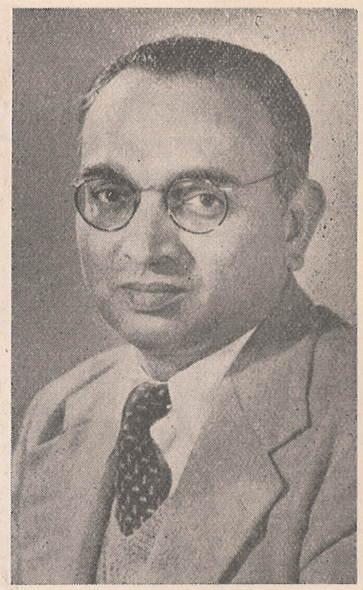
In the meantime Vohras and Vaidyanathans still continue as does Pandit Nehru, the kingpin of a corrupt government.

26.2.58 Baburao Patel

The Principal Finance Secretary Believes In "Family Resemblance"

During the debate over the Chagla Commission Report, Mr. Uma Charan Patnaik, an Independent member from Orissa, said in the Lok Sabha on 19th February 1958 as follows:

"The Life Insurance Corporation transactions bore a "family resemblance" to several other transactions which had taken place in the Defence Ministry during the troublous times of partition and its aftermath which had entailed a loss to the Government of hundreds of crores of rupees. He asked that an inquiry should be made into all these deals because he found the same haste and the same driving force behind them.



Mr. H. M. Patel, I.C.S.—a good breeder, indeed!

Mr. Patnaik said in one instance "after a closed-door meeting", a price of £7-17 per item instead of the quoted price of £6 per item had been paid in 1952 for ordnance stores worth nearly £1 million. The purchase was not made directly from the manufacturers. Suddenly a company consisting of three or four retired British officers with £100 or £200 capital was formed and orders were given to this company.

On another occasion the Defence Secretary—Mr. Patnaik paused to add in parenthesis that "it is the same Secretary here (as in the L.I.C. episode)"—went to the Continent to purchase some weapons. "He went with the same ordnance consultant officer and the same middlemen were always in the picture—these three or four retired British officers with £100 or £200 capital. They also accompanied him. He (the Secretary) was so satisfied with the weapons that he placed an oral order for such weapons worth £6,000. Later on, it was to be followed by a bulk order. In the meanwhile, a telegram was sent from here (Delhi) cancelling further orders because the Indian Ambassador in France had intimated that these weapons could be bought 10 per cent cheaper and if bulk orders were placed the cost would be much less".

Mr. Patnaik quoted a third instance where the Defence Secretary had ordered stores through the same intermediaries—the firm of the retired British officers—and found the arms were defective and "were injuring the users and not the enemy". When French aircraft were bought through these intermediaries the Government had to face trouble. Orders were given to a company in Switzerland to manufacture ordnance items which it had never manufactured before. On another occasion when blankets were needed for the troops in Kashmir, despite the U.K. Government saying that they could supply, orders were placed with a private firm. The blankets were found to be moth-eaten.

Family Resemblance

Mr. Patnaik added: "I find a family resemblance in all these deals. The Defence Secretary used to go every three months to the Continent to make contacts and make purchases and meet these same retired British officers and take them for weapon demonstrations. The Defence Secretary used to give no written orders but oral orders and papers are not available or if they are available, they are of the most scrappy kind".

Mr. Patnaik said: "I see another family resemblance in all these deeds in that the baby is always passed on to someone else. Even in the many purchases I mentioned, the baby was passed on to the High Commissioner (in London) or somebody else. Here, in the L.I.C. the baby was attempted to be passed on to a Minister".

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Editor's Mail

(In this section, the editor himself replies to queries from the readers. As thousands of letters are received every month—some anxious and several frivolous—it is neither possible nor convenient to attend to all. Selected letters are usually treated in an informative and humorous strain and no offence is meant to anyone.)

A woman's second attack of youth often proves more dangerous to her admirers. She is a woman who knows all the graces of life and meets men half way with sympathy and understanding. With goodwill all round there are no traffic jams in her life, an older woman always being a wiser woman. Jayashree makes much of her mellow charms in "Apna Paraya", produced and directed by M. V. Raman, and the way she does it even the "parayas" become "apna".

S. V. SAXENA (Berlin)

Difference between a German kiss and an Indian kiss?

The first one has an industrial future in it, the second one has only an ancestral past. The first one thunders, the second one only shivers.

A. SRINIVASULU (Cavalry Barracks)

Where did corruption take its birth?

The present corruption was born in the Gandhi cap. It began with gentle "sisterism" and has now become shameless gangsterism.

You pose yourself to be a bankrupt and still you prefer air travel. Why do you bluff?

I am Tendulkar's intimate friend. He has taught me to like all expensive habits if some one else is footing the bill.

K. RAMAKRISHNA RAO (Tenali)

Do you like American socialism or Russian Communism?

I like democratic disorder rather than regimented routine.

What is the difference between a Sikh beard and a Muslim beard?

The Sikh beard is a jungle of nature. The Muslim one is a garden of individual taste.

K. B. LALL (Jalgaon)

Does Kantilal Desai wear khadi?

His business does not depend on khadi, it depends on daddy.

Why has Vyjayantimala been dropped from Raman's "Jwala"?

Yadugiri Devi quoted more for costume designing than Raman could pay.

Is J. C. Jain lucky?

I don't know but Bombay seems to be a very hungry city. See what free dinners can do even to a recent visitor to the city.

Were you ever jailed?

That is my grievance, otherwise I would have been a minister too.

What is the hardest job Kardar has to do these days?

He has to convince people that his brother-in-law, Ismail Noor, is not building a studio for Kardar in Pakistan.

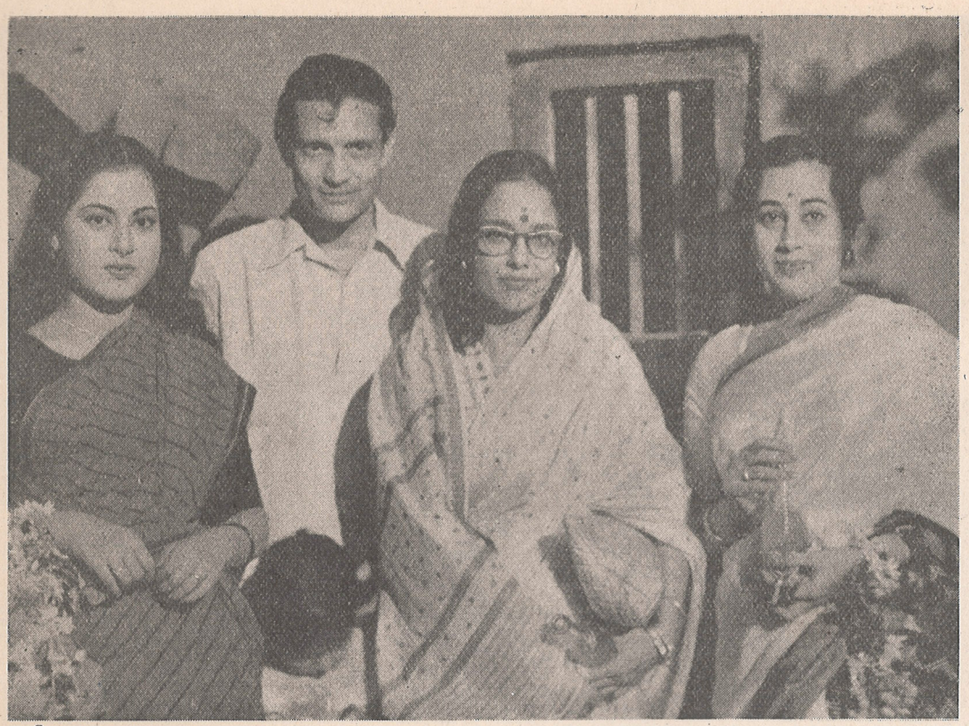
A. K. PATTANNA (Madras)

I have a friend. Whatever he touches grows fourfold?

Did his wife have quadruplets?

What is the power of a scandal?

The Jeep Scandal had no voltage but



Here is a great wife who kept her husband a hero of three generations. While she watched him closely and ignored his tricks of apparent absent-mindedness, she showed him a sympathetic indifference which always gave the man a conscience. Ashok Kumar was never a saint but Mrs. Shobha Ashok Kumar (centre of the picture) has been one, and a great mother in addition. She never allowed the pillars of her happy home to be shaken by the "other" women. And there have been many knocking around since Devika Rani picked up Ashok Kumar as her hero for motion pictures. Here they are at the "muhurt" of Priti Pictures' "Chhooti" (in Bengali). From left to right: Anita Guha, Producer C. L. Bannerjee, Mrs. Ashok Kumar and Sumitra Devi. A picture could not have got a better start than with the blessings of this great mother.

the Life Insurance Corporation Scandal lighted up a nation.

Lord Krishna had thousands of gopis?

The fellow nationalized his bed.

Whom will you trust: a cobra or a Brahmin?

There is wisdom in both. I'll trust myself to extract it from them.

Why do some men advertise for widows?

There are less pebbles on a trodden path.

I got a walking encyclopaedia as a wedding gift.

One can walk away from a walking one but can't escape a talking one.

WE HAVE TWO CHILDREN AND I KNOW ALL THE PAGES NOW. WHICH IS THIS 'NOO' ONE?
MY SON, YOU'LL HAVE TO BE BORN AGAIN TO KNOW ALL THE PAGES OF A WOMAN
WHERE ARE YOU GOING? I AM GOING TO READ A PAGE OF MYSELF TO YOU

I dreamt that Baburao was appointed Vidushak in Nehru's court?

Nehru doesn't like truth.

Where can I learn bluffing?

Read T. T. Krishnamachari's replies in the Lok Sabha over the Mundhra investments.

Ex-Governor of Madras, Mr. Rajamannar, regards nurses as angels from heaven?

Isn't he a chronic bachelor?

T. A. RAMANATHAN (Calcutta)

What is the fallibility of judgement of the Members of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal due to?

Those in the seats of justice must first lend ear and patience to the grievance before they form a judgement. Some of the Members of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal plug their ears with prejudice and open their mouths with vehemence. Justice is, therefore, the first casualty.

How to avoid Dhebarbhai's speeches?

I read Nehru's originals before Dhebarbhai duplicates them.

Can Nargis be a devoted wife?

She can play the role well if the picture is going to be a box-office hit.

Who is this fellow Durga Das?

He is a sincere man in an insincere post.

If J. C. Jain becomes a woman?

His voice will lose its voltage.

What does Balraj Sahni think of Baburao Patel these days?

I never remember old abuses when I review new pictures.

Thanks to "filmindia" for the detailed review of "Pardesi", for we saved five rupees and a headache by not seeing it.

You also saved yourself from an attack of high blood pressure.

Why don't you run up to Nehru to be saved from income-tax hounds?

One must fight for justice, not beg for it.

If I acquire A. R. Kardar's brain?

Your wife will be a very rich woman.

Which of your actresses is paying the maximum tax?

Nutan. She declares her full income. While Nutan declares her income at Rs. 75,000 per picture, Madhubala probably still clings to Rs. 25,000/- per picture.

What is Baburao Patel's latest weakness for Pandari Bai due to?

I don't know who the woman is but I can see that she is a great artiste.

Why are Maharashtrians so lazy?

They are busy framing thoughts in idle and abusive words.

"Filmindia" is sold these days in black market here?

So is food! All our necessities are being exploited these days by profiteers.

Who is this Ratanjankar?

He is Balu Keskar's music teacher.

Your Commissioner of Income tax is a Muslim?

Yes! That is half of my story.

Can't D. G. Tendulkar save you from the harassment of the income tax devils?

Tendulkar has reserved Nehru for the development of his own private sector.

M. MANAVALAN (Pakala)

What is an austerity drive?

Spending Rs. 15 lakhs on 63 elephants and 10,000 monkeys at the Pragjyotishpur Congress!

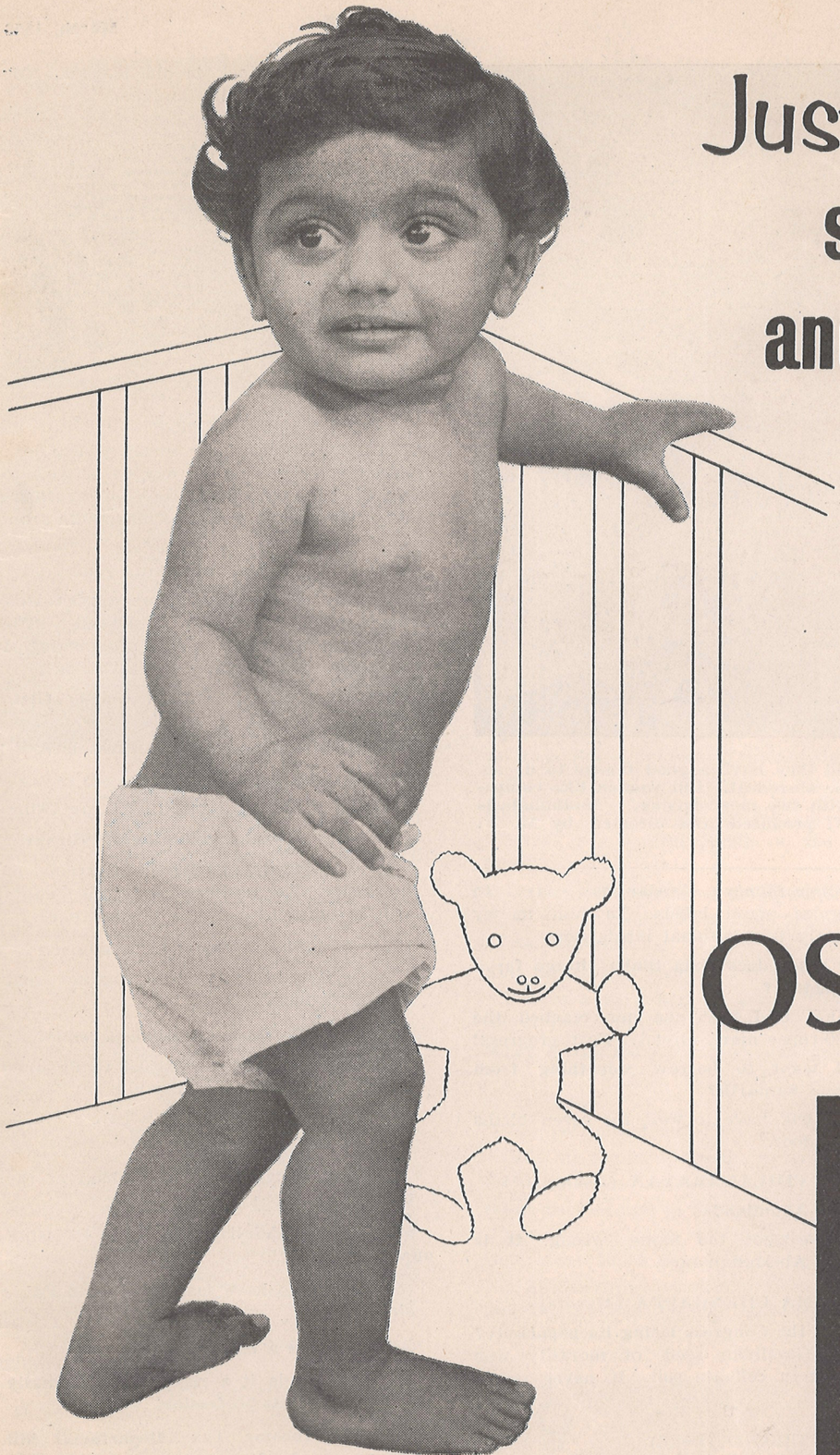
I don't believe in fate?

Do you believe in Mundhra shares?

Programmes on A.I.R. are simply boring.

Keskar might be getting some 'bakshish' from Radio Ceylon Anything is possible in the Congress raj.

Nehru had a photograph in Madras with three woman dignitaries of the State: 1. The Mayor (Tara Cherian), 2. The Minister for Local Administration (Lourdammal Simon), 3. The Sheriff (Mary Clubwalla Jadhav).



Just look at my straight back and sturdy limbs

When mother stopped feeding me she gave me the best baby food she could buy — OSTERMILK, which is pure, nourishing and very easily digested. Now I'm as strong and sturdy as any breast-fed baby —

thanks to OSTERMILK

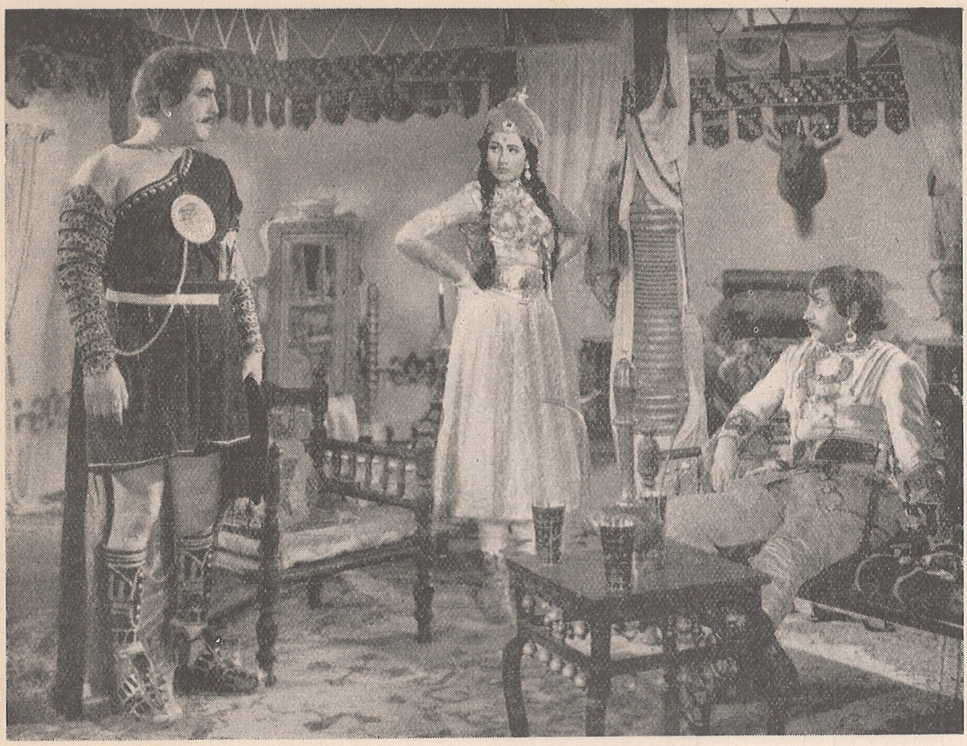
nearest to mother's milk

MY HINT TO MOTHERS

Send 50 naye paise in stamps (towards postage) to "Ostermilk", P. O. Box 202, Bombay, and you'll get a wonderful book on baby care. My mother has it . . . . you must too!

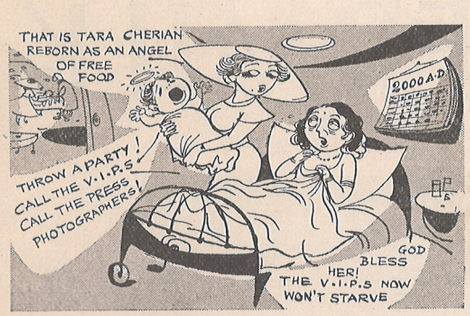
BOMBAY • CALCUTTA • MADRAS • NEW DELHI

E-69(B)



See how these two men are staring at each other. And they have a good reason to do so. Unless one of them is liquidated the woman cannot be stared at. But women like competition in romance. They get more kick out of life with two men chasing. Madhubala is wondering what Ullhas and Pran are about in "Jwala", produced and directed by M. V. Raman.

Now these women are bound to be reborn as 'avatars' of another age.


THAT IS TARA CHERIAN REBORN AS AN ANGEL OF FREE FOOD
2000 A.D
THROW A PARTY! CALL THE V.I.P.S CALL THE PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS!
GOD BLESS HER! THE V.I.P.S NOW WON'T STARVE

RAJ A. CHHUGANI (Poona)

Can you oblige me with Mala Sinha's measurements?

That woman's measurements fluctuate twice a day after meals. What is the use of such Mundhra quotations?

Foam rubber in Connaught Circus of Delhi? You are misinformed Babs?

Do you think it is genuine wheat?

Weren't you invited to Mrs. Arya's birthday party?

You are spying on me. Has Bhatia, the insurance man, been playing his record to you?

With whose money is Kardar producing "Do Phool"?

Indian money! Kardar has ceased to recognize small labels. To him money has only two national labels now.

How much does Mala Sinha charge for a single picture?

I am told that she has reached the 80,000-rupee mark already. Fast progress!

If I want to borrow something from Shobhana Samarth?

You will have to wait for seven births at her door.

MRS. G. VIMLANARAYAN (Asansol)

Sheikh Abdullah?

You've got the name wrong. It is Sheikh Ab-Mullah now.

MISS ASHA CHENGAPPA (Mysore)

Why is the Congress losing its popularity?

The Gandhian seed of morality was sown in a celibate soil. It never reproduced.

HARISH CHAND (Delhi)

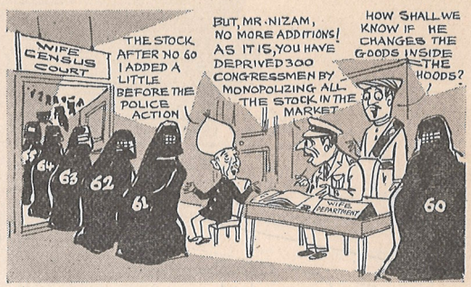
Are prostitutes necessary?

Where will our Congressmen plan their election campaigns? In Bombay, the Congress House is built right across the road for convenience.

BHAN PRAKASH (Lucknow)

Is keeping two wives legal?

Yes, if the stock is old enough. You can't add to the collection though.


WIFE CENSUS COURT
THE STOCK AFTER NO 60 I ADDED A LITTLE BEFORE THE POLICE ACTION
BUT, MR. NIZAM, NO MORE ADDITIONS! AS IT IS, YOU HAVE DEPRIVED 300 CONGRESSMEN BY MONOPOLIZING ALL THE STOCK IN THE MARKET
HOW SHALL WE KNOW IF HE CHANGES THE GOODS INSIDE THE HOODS?
64
63
62
61
60

Does Pandit Nehru keep dogs too?

Yes! He must have some genuine love and loyalty during the day to be able to digest the tons and tons of synthetic affection that is showered upon him from all sides.

Why do people misunderstand you?

Too much of truth makes a man look like a blackmailer. Had I allowed a little truth to punctuate a lot of humbug I would have been called a Mahatma.

What is there in Bhangi Colony these days?

There is Dhebar, the Congress bird.

How do you meet Mehboob?

We don't have to meet. We are twins.

How strong is the foundation of "Girnar"?

It will survive twenty generations of humanity. Let us hope its future tenants will be as artistic as the present ones.

Why isn't Shankerrao Deo a minister?

After Gandhiji's death his costume went out of fashion.

Wasn't C. D. Deshmukh indispensible?

Honest men are the easiest to dispense with. They are a nuisance in party politics.

How is history written?

History is written in the blood of the people.

Will Sheikh Abdullah also fly to Pakistan one day?

He seems to have just come from Pakistan.

Is journalism a terrible profession?

I have made it a risky job. Normally it is a spineless profession.

Will the Income Tax Department kill Baburao one day?

That is the general design. But devils don't change the destiny of a man.

Why is Baburao's Moti silent these days?

Moti has become silent for ever. Nehru did not give Moti even a dog's chance to speak and Moti went to heaven on 22nd February 1958. I lost my best friend.

When at the end of their wits—and of course designs—women rush to men in tears in a final effort to dissolve him. Look at Kamini Kaushal working on Ajit in "Raja Beta", a sensational social theme produced by Vallabh Productions.

What, Dhebar again?

It is a retake. In family planning a man of proved disability is always safer.

BABURAO SAID A RETAKE WAS SAFER IN FAMILY PLANNING
BUT YOU ARE NOT DHEBAR - YOU ARE A MAN OF PROVED ABILITY SEE THOSE TWO THERE
FAMILY PLANNING WEEK
SLEEP LESS TO FEED LESS

Which are the foreign countries where "filmindia" goes?

It goes to all the countries of the world except Pakistan, Kashmir, Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika.

Are the teachings of "Gita" inspiring?

Yes! "Ramayana" is the only misfortune of India.

What is exciting in Nehru's talks?

Nehru lends a social conscience to his words and then goes to sleep.

Are you stil in debts?

I have no debts. The income tax demand is absolutely bogus. And because it is bogus, I am prepared to become an insolvent. Had it been ever slightly genuine I would have considered it as a debt of honour and slaved day and night to pay it.

SUBHASH J. RELE (Bombay)

Tell me a good joke?

Iyengar, the Governor of the Reserve Bank, threw out Haridas Mundhra from his house.

Why does K. Asif make faces?

The poor chap tries to straighten his face.

Homoeopathy is an art?

It becomes an art after you study it every day for 20 years.

Why does Nutan look sleepy?

That is how decent young girls wink.

What is the difference between Baburao Patel's "Girnar" and D. G. Tendulkar's "Tapas"?

"Tapas" is the fruit of flattery, "Girnar" is a harvest of hard work.

You never sing a song?

I sing the national anthem. What else is my criticism of the Government?

Is Raja Sulochana worth kidnapping?

Where to find all the rice to fill her?

How will you describe Israel?

Israel is a painful pimple on the Arab nose.

If Krishna Menon commits suicide?

He will choose the Assembly Hall of the United Nations.

You forget and forgive, I hear?

I have a very bad memory. There is, therefore, nothing to forgive.

What is the food star-husbands eat?

Meat of the wife, salted with the sweat of her labour.

"Make corruption difficult", says Nehru?

Only his son-in-law seems to have heard that.

What do you find in "Blitz"?

It is a good paper for weekend fiction.

How many times does a Marwari die?

A Marwari dies every day at two in the morning after the closing figure from New York comes.

N. S. S. SWAMY (Bangalore)

I speak before I think?

Another Nehru! If you reverse the process you will be another Meher Baba.

VANDANA (Nowgong)

Why does Shobhana Samarth get her daughters educated only in Switzerland?

She doesn't want them to fall in love with our Congressmen.

K. PONNUSWAMY (Poona)

Is Sunil Dutt handsome?

Nargis thinks so, and he doesn't want another opinion.

Can you predict the future of Shri Nehru?

From 8th February 1958 his journey towards the horizon has begun.

A. SINGH (Jullundur)

Have you any Punjabi trait in your character?

I have their strength, temper and daring. But I have reason.

I saw Meena Shorey in my dream?

You cannot see anything better in a Punjabi dream.

Did Iris have any adopted brothers?

Morarji Desai once wanted to adopt Iris as a sister but Iris didn't like the idea. She thought Morarji was too handsome to be wasted as a brother.

WHAT IS HEALTH?

"Health is positive state of well-being in which the harmonious development of the physical and mental capacities of the individual lead to the enjoyment of rich and full life."

(Indian Planning Commission)

INSURE YOUR HEALTH

With

NAVRATNA-KALPA

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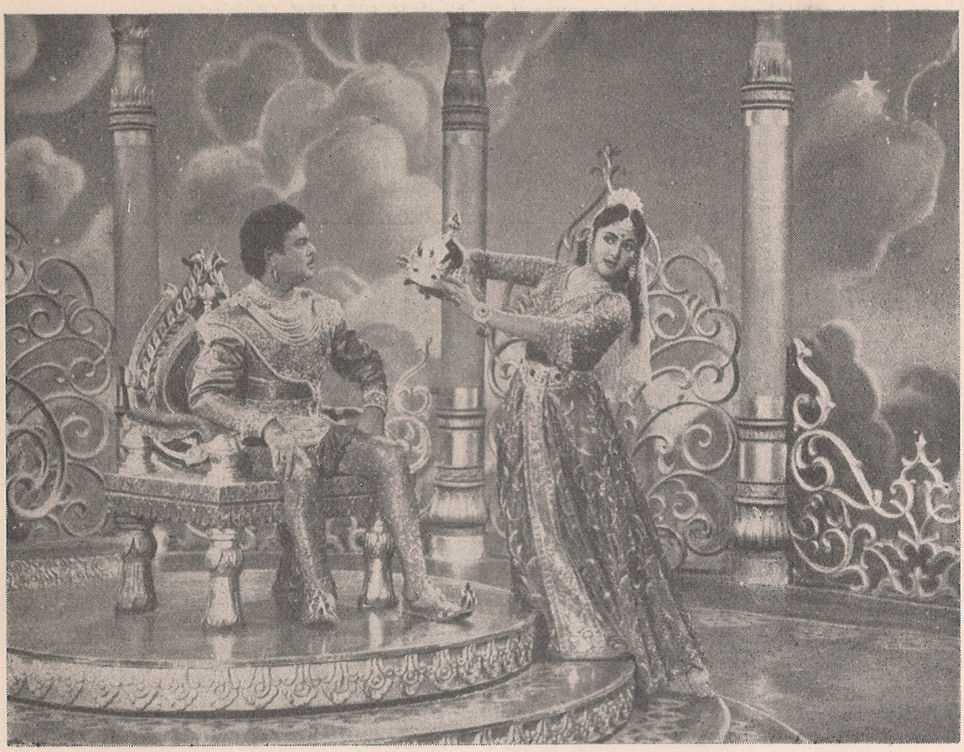


A blind man prays for one eye and God often gives him two. That makes him happy. But here is a fellow who is getting the girl and the crown both and he doesn't seem to want either. He is looking askance. Ganesh and Vyjayantimala bring some suspense to the screen in "Raj Tilak", a dynamic entertainment produced by Mr. Vasan for Gemini.

N. J. ISRANI (Bombay)

I am a bachelor. Any advice?

Use your minutes to learn something new. Later you will waste hours in repentance.

Desire has many faces?

Yes, but only one bed—the double one.

HEMCHANDRA B. PATIL (Koppal)

Gandhiji loved cow's milk and goat's milk, but why not the eggs of a hen?

Gandhiji was never keen on fresh fruit of any kind. He liked it dried.

B. K. PATTANAYAK (Sambalpur)

We came to know that film actor Raj Kumar was arrested by the police recently?

Yes, on an alleged charge of murder!

ONKAR DAYAL (New Delhi)

If they offer you a 'Bharat Ratna'?

What harm have I done to them? I don't think they will be so vindictive.

S. VITTAL RAO (Madras)

Teach me how to affect a girl towards matrimonial effect?

The minimum need for a marriage is a maximum total of physical fitness. Let me know your total.

Man, woman and God: what does each perceive in you?

A devil, a darling and a devotee!

DR. P. V. ACHAR (Vijayawada)

How to reform a spoilt grandfather?

Give him Nira for a month and he will join Gandhiji soon.

SUBHASH J. RELE (Bombay)

Whom does David fear most?

A Jew fears himself most. He is always afraid that he might suddenly lend a tongue to his grievance of centuries.

YOU ARE TOO TALKATIVE FOR ME, SARAH. MEET MY FRIEND BABAN GOKHALE. HE IS NOT MARRIED YET
I AM A SWIMMER WITH GOOD BREAST STROKE, SARAH
OH, I AM TIRED OF SWIMMING ALONE, DAVID. I FEEL LIKE GETTING MARRIED

SURESH (Rangoon)

I was born on 15-6-1933 and at present I am doing business with my father. What will be my future?

You'll inherit the business. But watch your love-affairs, your nerves and your bronchial tubes.

T. K. SHARMA (Bhamo)

Why don't you bribe your I.T.O.?

I don't have enough money for meals these days. Bribes are not promissory notes. They are currency notes.

HARBANS SINGH (New Delhi)

Who is happy over Abdullah's release?

Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed says Mridulaben Sarabhai is very happy.

D. S. R. MOORTHY (Vijayapuri)

Where do you stand in the official language muddle?

I believe in English for national progress, Hindi for inter-provincial amity and the regional languages for domestic bliss.

JAGDISH G. SAMBRANI (Bombay)

What is your definition of self-respect? Last week I was asked to reserve two seats for New Delhi for my officer and I had to go to Bombay Central and do the work. I felt it very much.

In my young days when I was working in a British firm as a salesman, I was often asked to accompany my boss' wife on her shopping expeditions in the afternoons. During these expeditions I often carried her shoes, hats, liquor bottles, fruit baskets and other odds and ends from shop to shop. She never even thanked me nor did my boss but I learnt a lot about what women buy and why. The knowledge came in useful when I had to buy things for my women.

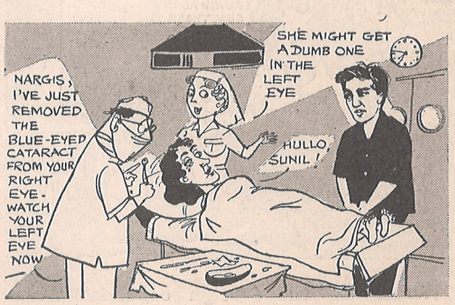
Am I an interesting person?

No. A man with a sneering mind is irritating.

SUBASH J. RELE (Bombay)

If Nargis gets a cataract?

She recently had a cataract operation. Give her time to grow another one.


NARGIS, I'VE JUST REMOVED THE BLUE-EYED CATARACT FROM YOUR RIGHT EYE. WATCH YOUR LEFT EYE NOW
SHE MIGHT GET A DUMB ONE IN THE LEFT EYE
HULLO, SUNIL!

MISS L. CHINNASWAMY (Secunderabad)

How do you like to dance with Helen?

Helen makes Rs. 20,000 a month. She can buy her own gigolo without having to fall back upon an old journalist.

Is Mrs. Indira Gandhi proud of her husband?

Yes, and so are we.

Have you great faith in Sai Baba?

No! I went to Shirdi once but came back disappointed.

What is the height of Nutan?

She is tall enough to deserve a prince amongst men—not of course, one of our swadeshi princes.

V. L. NARAYANA (Howrah)

Madrasis travel by air with dhotis on?

Polite folks! Gujaratis often do it with dhotis up.

Have you ever travelled by I.A.C.'s Viscount?

I have no money to travel by a tramcar these days. I hibernate in my room for days till someone picks me up for a drive.

H. M. KASKAR (Bombay)

Has Bombay improved since the departure of Morarji Desai?

Yes, there is less tension, less backbiting and no "sisterism".

Have you a soft corner in your heart for Muslims?

I love good Muslims. The cunning ones I avoid amongst Hindus also.

Is Mehboob Khan elated by his recent success in "Mother India"?

Mehboob can never get a swollen head. He bows down before God with humility five times a day.

S. PRAKASH (Jullundur)

No one criticizes Bakshi except you?

I was also the only one to criticize Sheikh Abdullah when Nehru was embracing him every day.

I saw a Punjabi drunkard touching his wife's feet?

He must have taken Indian whisky to have become so cringing. Religious-minded Congressmen say that Indian whisky tastes like refined cow's urine.

I AM NOT YOUR SISTER, I AM YOUR WIFE - TAKE SOME SCOTCH WHISKEY
THAT WILL HELP YOU TO IDENTIFY YOUR WIFE AND NOT WASTE THE NIGHT
INDIAN WHISKEY PURE & GENTLE
TO YOUR HEALTH, MANIBEN! AND MAY YOU GET A GOOD HUSBAND!
REMOVE THAT CAP ALSO - IT GIVES HIM NOTIONS OF CELIBACY

MRS. SUMA C. K. (Poona)

Can you predict what will be the position of English papers after 1965?

They will be more popular than they are now.

Girls are said to have curves. What about men?

They have muscles. They used to have, at least during my days.

A. K. MATHUR (Barmer)

After reading your reply to one of the readers about Aluminium cookers, I consulted the district doctor here who said that food cooked in such cookers doesn't lose its value. Will you please reconsider and revise your opinion?

No! I am not concerned with your doctor's ignorance. Food cooked in aluminium is very dangerous to health. It often causes muscular paralysis, various skin diseases, constipation, anaemia, suicidal tendency and many other afflictions. My advice is: throw all the aluminium pots out of your kitchen.

MAHESH C. SOTI (New Delhi)

I am a writer and about seventy of my articles in Hindi such as stories, one-act plays etc., have been published. But I could get only Rs. 150/- as remuneration. Any comment?

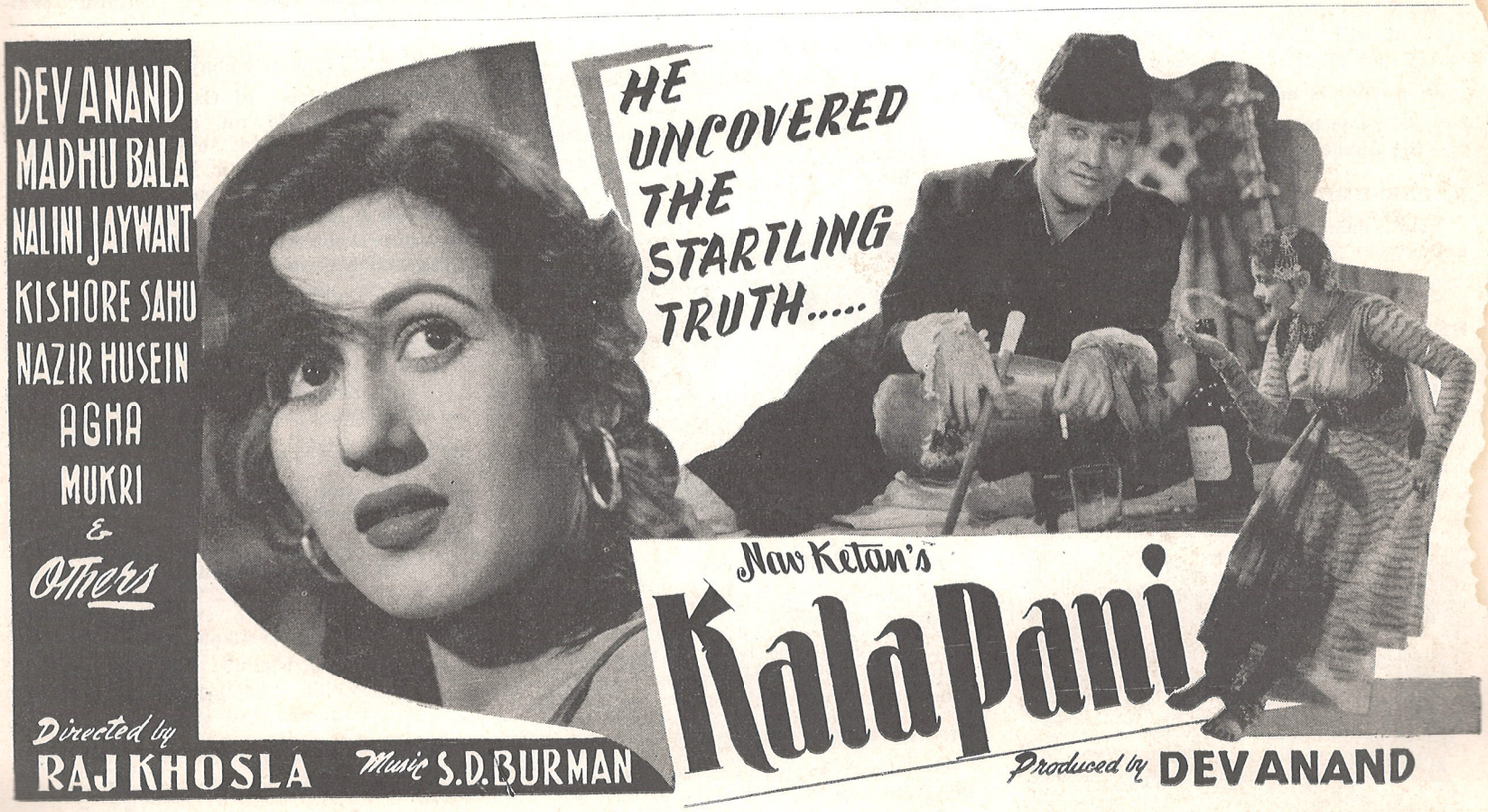
You are wasting your time on Hindi. Why don't you assemble an eight-volume book on Nehru, as Tendulkar did over Gandhi? You will get a house of your own in a year.

ROOP H. KALYANI (Calcutta)

Wonder, no rats in Nehru's "Welfare" State?

What do you call those whom Nehru employs?

Have you garlanded any of the ministers?



To be released shortly in Bombay Circuit through
Messrs. BLACK & WHITE MOVIE DISTRIBUTORS, 5-K, Naaz Building, Bombay 4.

A good dancer needs a grand picture to lend an impressive background to her talent. Vyjayantimala gets a chance of her life in "Raj Tilak", a mammoth spectacle produced by Gemini.

Not with flowers, but with words, yes. And not all the words were fragrant.

So Kardar is making "Do Phool"?

Seems to be a biography of "Do Fools" —the financier and the distributor.

Y. LAKSHMINARAYAN (Calcutta)

Your opinion about Balraj Sahani's acting?

He is doing excellent work these days.

HEMCHANDRA B. PATIL (Koppal)

There is a rumour that Agha once tried to abduct Chand Usmani?

Agha hasn't guts to abduct his own wife after a bottle of whisky, leave alone another woman. That man is himself waiting to be abducted.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE MY SWEET HUSBAND?
SEE, HOW MANY PASSER OVER ME WITHOUT EVEN A LOOK. EVEN A BEGGAR COLLECTS A RUPEE AFTER TWO HOURS IN THE PARK. I ONLY GOT SORE BOTTOM AND A STIFF NECK. YOUR BAD LUCK, NO ONE KIDNAPS ME

K. V. RAMANA PATRO (Midnapore)

Morarji is a pure vegetarian?

Through his milk he takes more meat proteins than I do. Morarji drinks three seers of milk every day.

How to set right the function of the liver?

Take a dose of Chelidonium 30, once early morning, for some days.

I. SIVADASA MENON (Madras)

Who is the biggest bluffer in India?

Our Food Minister A. P. Jain. He gives statistics of food which we never see.

Rajaji turns anti-North?

I don't think so. He is only pro-South. And intelligently so.

G. RAMANATHAN (Mannargudi)

How is your future, dear Babs?

Excellent! Plenty of hard work, exciting times, no rest but a peaceful end. And, of course, nothing for the Estate Duty Tax.

What have you saved so far?

Twenty-three annual volumes of "filmindia".

S. SUNTHARALINGAM (Nawalapitiya)

Who is the strongest man in the Congress next to Nehru?

Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant. He weighs the most too.

RAMESH C. SUD (Simla)

What happened when Adam kissed Eve for the first time?

Eve said: "Adamji, Serpentbhai is watching." And Adam immediately covered his eyes with a fig leaf.

S. K. NANDI (Kadamkuan)

Do you have any sympathy for the East Pakistan refugees?

I can only shed tears on their track so that the dust of the road does not rise to hurt their haunted eyes.

VISHIN R. SHEWANI (Indore)

Would you like to hear Shri Keskar singing from Vividh Bharati?

Don't we have enough national calamities?

I. N. MULCHANDANI (Poona)

Are you really sincere about starting the Patel Relief Fund?

Yes, money is the only thing one can't act. One can play a king in royal robes but to play money one must actually have it—beg, borrow or steal. I badly need relief but my readers evidently need relief more badly.

MOHAN KALIA (New Delhi)

What happened to our film actress Cuckoo?

She went back into the clock.

B. R. SEHGAL (Amla)

Have you got any faith in Nehru?

Without faith I would not have wasted millions of words on him during the last ten years.

PRABHU DAYAL (Ajmer)

Are there saints in Paris?

Doesn't a lotus grow in muck?

R. THIRUNARAYANAN (Chidambaram)

Whenever in the past Pandit Nehru visited Madras he received garlands and bouquets. But in his recent visit, he received only stones and slippers (which were thrown at his car). What does it show?

That Valmiki was right in describing the Dravidians as monkeys. Human beings never give such "cultural" exhibitions.

M. H. SAWANT (Bombay)

The employees of the Life Insurance Corporation made an application for a Diwali loan equal to one month's salary to be recovered within ten months. The Post & Telegraphs, Income Tax Offices, Customs & Railways had paid such advances to their employees. But the Life Insurance Corporation refused the loan. Why?

Had the Corporation given a loan to the employees, Mundhra's Divali would have been spoilt. Marwari multi-millionaires are rather religious about the Divali festival and a secular State has to respect their religious sentiment.

SHANTI MAL JAIN (Kota)

Are you not sometimes brutal, sometimes flippant, sometimes cynical and sometimes superficial?

I am all that sometimes but I am truthful always.

D. P. MATHUR (Lucknow)

How has 1958 begun?

With Sheikh Abdullah coming in and T. T. Krishnamachari going out.

K. SAGUNA BAI (Avadi)

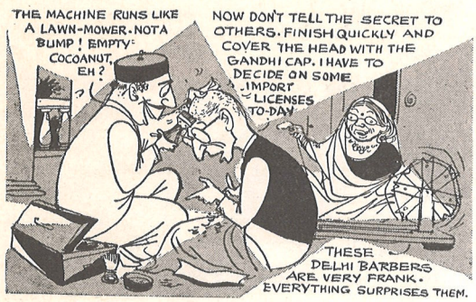
Which was the best Indian picture for 1957?

"Mother India". It is the best in 40 years.

S. PRAKASH (Jullundur)

Morarji Desai is never seen without a white cap?

He doesn't like the vacuum to be exposed.


THE MACHINE RUNS LIKE A LAWN-MOWER-NOT A BUMP! EMPTY: COCOANUT, EH?
NOW DON'T TELL THE SECRET TO OTHERS. FINISH QUICKLY AND COVER THE HEAD WITH THE GANDHI CAP. I HAVE TO DECIDE ON SOME IMPORT LICENSES TO-DAY
THESE DELHI BARBERS ARE VERY FRANK. EVERYTHING SURPRISES THEM.

S. GROVER (New Delhi)

I think a lot?

Quite possible! But thoughts evaporate quickly unless you put them on paper. I rarely allow a thought to escape.

MANOHAR S. (Patiala)

Is Rajaji bashful?

Rajaji makes the whole Congress blush.

Is Padmini beautiful?

Beauty is a matter of individual taste. I think she is only flashy.

C. C. PANDYA (Baroda)

Shri Shriman Narayan says, "Students lack basic loyalty to the nation".

By "nation" that Shri Shriman means the Congress Party. Students need not take him seriously.

Prithviraj Kapoor says, "Cinemas and theatres are modern temples" because they don't observe differences of castes and communities. Then what about clubs, gambling dens, brothels and the open 'shops' of prostitutes?

They are also Prithvi's modern temples.

V. V. DESHMUKH (Ahmedabad)

Are you sure that the Income Tax Department was responsible for the sad death of Rao Saheb D. K. Parker?

Yes. Parker often thought death would be more welcome than the cruel harassment of the Income Tax Department.

R. GOVINDARAJULU (Madras)

Isn't it unpatriotic of you to advise us to discontinue our support to the Life Insurance Corporation?

I thought it is patriotic to look after one's hard-earned money rather than hand it over for the benefit of Marwari multi-millionaires.

MRS. S. PREMILLA (New Delhi)

Has Nehru any vice?

He has Krishna Menon.

P. V. ACHAR (Vijayawada)

If you had a daughter-in-law as versatile as Vyjayantimala?

She would be a widow because my son would have been dead much earlier.

JAIKISHAN BHAGAT (Bombay)

Describe Helen in one word!

Picnic!

PRAVIN R. VYAS (Surat)

On one side, a procession of Shri Dhebarbhai with 63 elephants, and on the other side various money-saving schemes. What does this show?

It proves how idiotic are the millions who vote for the Congress.

A. RAGHAVAN (Donakonda)

I missed becoming an income tax officer?

You missed the easiest way to become rich.

ROOP H. KALYANI (Calcutta)

Who is this sweety, Sophia Loren?

That is an Italian Vesuvius in your dream bedroom.

DHANRAJANI (Deolali)

What is the cure for whooping cough?

There are many homoeopathic remedies for whooping cough to be given according to symptoms. But you can try either "Drosera 30" or "Pertussin 30". Between the two, 80% of the cases are cured.

H. M. KASKAR (Bombay)

What is Mehboob Khan's bank balance?

He is still making up the deficits in the bank balance of others.

Is Yeshwantrao Chavan honest?

He doesn't have a son-in-law in the tube-well business.

A. SRINIVASULU (Cavalry Barracks)

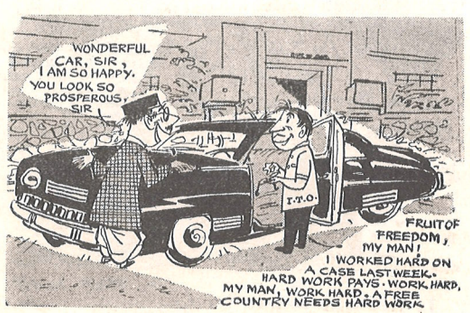
"It is sinful to eat American wheat...." said Gandhi in 1921?

But his heirs can't rattle long speeches now without American wheat.

SURINDER P. S. DEOL (Haripur)

Happy faces are hard to find in our country?

Why don't you see the faces of Government officers? They have smiles which even bankers can't afford.


WONDERFUL CAR, SIR, I AM SO HAPPY. YOU LOOK SO PROSPEROUS, SIR!
T.T.O.
FRUIT OF FREEDOM, MY MAN! I WORKED HARD ON A CASE LAST WEEK. HARD WORK PAYS. WORK, HARD, MY MAN, WORK HARD. A FREE COUNTRY NEEDS HARD WORK.

K. A. PATNA (Madras)

I want a woman like Cleopatra?

T. T. Krishnamachari wanted to be the Prime Minister of India. You Madrasis are great daydreamers.

Why do they light lamps in temples with ghee?

Don't the priests need ghee on their rice? The diet of God depends on the appetite of His priests.

If I speak all evil, hear all evil and see all evil?

You will be a good Congress minister.

Which game is popular in India?

Bleeding the people to strengthen the State tyrants.

99-year-old Karve gets Bharat Ratna?

They tried to avoid him for 10 years but the Maharashtrian proved tougher.

Your opinion of Dr. Keskar's work as Minister of Information & Broadcasting?

He is successfully working out a five-year plan for Radio Ceylon. Balu Keskar is a good neighbour.

MISS RATNA SHIVDASANI (Bombay)

Do you at least agree that the pictures of Mr. V. Shantaram are hits?

Why do you say "at least"? I have liked quite a few pictures produced by Shantaram and given them good reviews.

MRS. VIJAYA JOSHI (Kalyan)

A ghost is appearing in the south, sir?

It is the old ghost of Gandhi with the face of Rajaji. Don't be scared, old family ghosts don't hurt.

MADHAV K. KOTESHWAR (Madras)

Income tax notices for Rs. 49 lakhs were withdrawn, said Mundhra, when he paid only a lakh of rupees in cash and gave a security of eight lakhs. Why couldn't you get some similar concession?

I don't have the Principal Secretary of the Finance Ministry as my friend and I don't know how rupees look like these days.

SUBHASH J. RELE (Bombay)

The Jam Saheb has a hungry look?

That is a hunted look, not a hungry one.

Munshi is not happy?

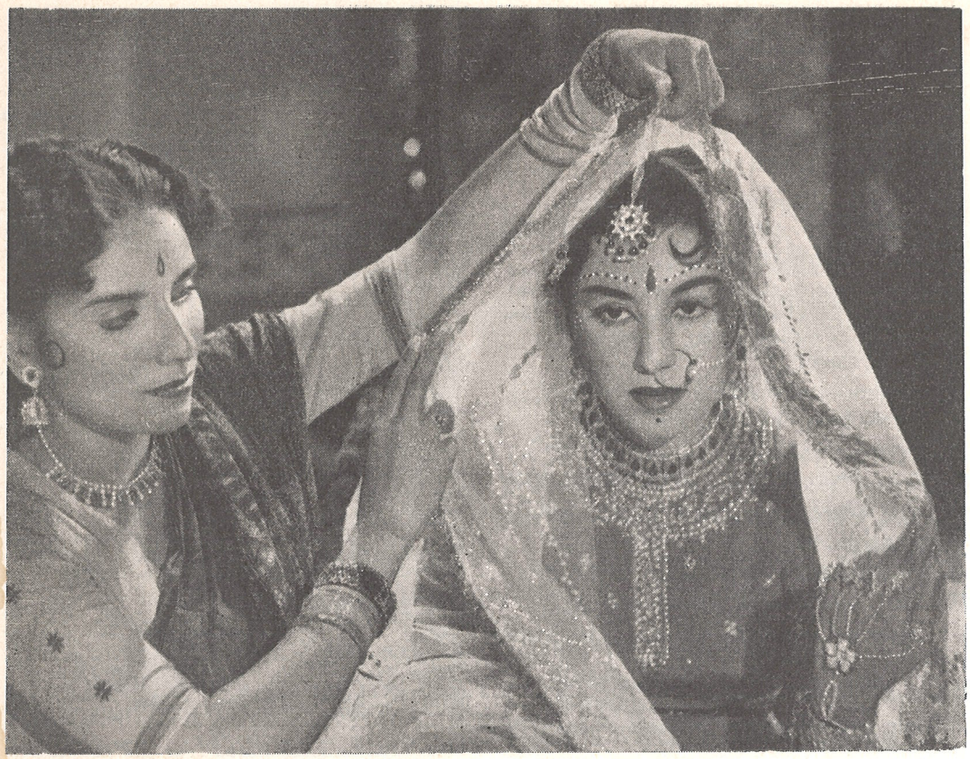
He is now too old to be unhappy.

In what has Prem Nath been most successful?

In housekeeping! The man has rare talent in this art.

You still tell fairy tales?

My true stories will give you nightmares.



Brides always create curiosity and a little jealousy too among their own kind. For some strange reason, even an ugly woman looks a pretty bride on her wedding night. It is probably the sympathy of those around for a woman who is courting misfortune blindfold. Anyway, Jabeen looks a pretty bride and Shashil Mala, a newcomer, wonders why in "Hathkadi", a sensational romance produced by D. S. Films.

If Nimmi falls in love with you?

She will be the first one to make the mistake.

How rich is Nutan?

Mother plus daughter should add up to a neat sum of twenty lakhs of rupees.

MRS. PRAKASH (New Delhi)

Please may I have the address of Kamini Kaushal?

Mrs. Uma Sood, Gate Side, Clarke Bunder, Bombay 10. Send Uma my love too.

What are the symptoms of a man who has seen God?

He sleeps well in spite of income tax fiends.

Isn't Baburao Patel impressed by the achievements of Raj Kapoor?

Yes, Raj is the most brilliant young producer we have. At the age he began motion picture production I was hawking fountain pens. But life is to be assessed at the end and not at the start.

Will Raj Kumar shine or not?

He is in eclipse at the moment. Let the poor boy come out.

Who is Karam Chand Thapar?

He is the Punjabi edition of Birla, I am told.

Do you believe in miracles, sir?

Madam, I believe in everything after the Mundhra affair.

Was T.T.K. a successful minister?

Didn't you read the love letters he and Nehru exchanged?

Is Geeta Bali fond of dogs?

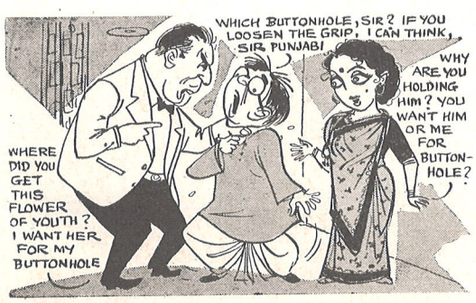
She has proved it.

Is Mala Sinha's father very clever?

One can be a genius with a daughter earning four lakhs a year.

Why are the Bengalis afraid of the Punjabis?

The Bengalis take time in thinking. The Punjabis never believe in wasting time that way.


WHICH BUTTONHOLE, SIR? IF YOU LOOSEN THE GRIP, I CAN THINK, SIR PUNJABI
WHY ARE YOU HOLDING HIM? YOU WANT HIM OR ME FOR BUTTON-HOLE?
WHERE DID YOU GET THIS FLOWER OF YOUTH? I WANT HER FOR MY BUTTONHOLE

Is Iris still yours?

Those who know me well are always mine.

Are you interested in curios?

No more! We have had ten years of them in the Congress Government.

Sindhi women are very good cooks, they say?

Why do their men eat in the streets then?

Who is the godfather of Pakistan?

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. He is the father and godfather—both.

Are you sure that we will ultimately lose Kashmir?

You can hang me if we don't lose it ultimately.

How to recognize a Peshawari?

They have big bottoms, and I don't know why.

Don't you think that the monks of the Ramakrishna Mission live in too much of luxury?

A clean, simple life is not luxury.

Hasn't the Bible inspired you?

I don't find anything new in it. It doesn't even have all the old wisdom. The precepts of the Bible are pedestrian.

Who shares your pain?

Prayer is the partner of pain.

What are the qualifications of Shrimati Shirin Patel?

Shirin has remained married to me for 36 years. She deserves a Bharat Ratna. But in India the Bharat Ratna seems to have been reserved for paralytic widows and widowers.

"Kashmir hamara hai"?

Say it in a whisper, otherwise the Kashmiris will laugh.

I find even very old men and women coming daily to have a round of the Connaught Place?

In cantonment towns everyone goes to the railway station in the evening.

Do you respect Durga Das?

Yes, because I know that he has to produce articles in ink with his pen dipped in Birla's milk. Durga Das is a great alchemist.

If Baburao Patel decides to become a sanyasi?

I have only to wear the colours now. The rest of the transformation is almost complete. Do you like the Ramakrishna model or the Vivekanand one?

Why do some people think that you are a great cheat, while many think that you are a man of great character?

I am somewhere between the two ends, as all little men are. When I go to the Bhangi Colony, I'll be both—a great cheat and a man of great character. Isn't that the ideal to be attained in Bharat, that is India?

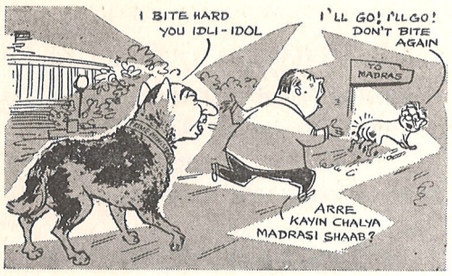
EBENEZER S. SOANS (Kharagpur)

Why does Sri Prakasa hesitate to take a look into the Five-Year Plan?

An honest man doesn't like to look into a fraud.

Does Feroze Gandhi's bite hurt?

He sent home Krishnamachari licking the wound.



V. H. M. NAGAIAH (Hadagalli)

Are Banjaras classified as Brahmins?

Oh, no! We are much higher. We are classified as dacoits.

G. N. PAI (Bombay)

How to seduce a prostitute?

Offer her marriage and she'll follow you to the other end of the world.

YOU'LL MARRY ME AND MAKE ME HAPPY BUT WHAT ABOUT MY DEPENDENTS?
I WANT ONLY YOU. I AM NOT AN ALL-RISKS INSURANCE POLICY
EH, MISTER, YOU'LL HAVE TO GIVE ME 20% OF YOUR EARNINGS AS BROKERAGE

Does Nargis respect Raj?

She calls him "Mr. Kapoor" nowadays.

What can make Jam Saheb slim?

Jam Saheb can now melt only on the pyre.

Can Nehru declare war against Portugal?

Nehru has already declared the war but the Portuguese don't understand English.

Is Sheikh Abdullah a nice guy to meet!

Must be, otherwise an artistic soul like Mridula Sarabhai won't run to meet him.

If Nehru meets you face to face, I can't imagine the consequences?

Once when I met him face to face, Nehru became dumb. So in the interest of the nation I removed myself to a distant corner.

They say you are financed by a foreign power?

Yes, God is a foreigner in Nehru's "Welfare" State.

Shall we ever have a better Prime Minister than our Jawaharlal?

We shall never have a better acrobat.

I occasionally tell the truth?

That is fine. Truth is needed occasionally to make lies convincing. Don't our food statistics make our Five-Year Plan more convincing?

They are abusing you, but why?

Abusing gives relief—mental and physical. It temporarily empties the mind of hatred and passion and improves the man's health. If my name can bring about even this temporary relief what more does a natural healer like me want? Let them all abuse me if it makes them feel better.

How to seduce a widow?

Remind her of the past nights and say that you can make her forget them. She will stick to you till she becomes a widow again.

Who is this Haridas Mundhra?

He is the Nemesis of our I.C.S. angels.

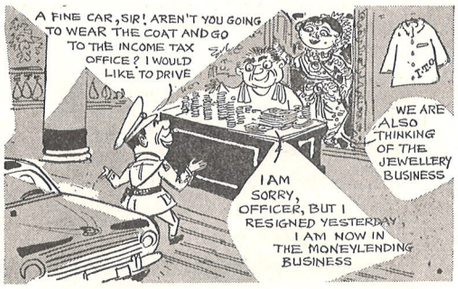
I dream of crores these days?

Another Mundhra, eh?

K. V. RAMANA PATRO (Midnapore)

When should an I.T.O. resign his post?

Before he buys his big car.


A FINE CAR, SIR! AREN'T YOU GOING TO WEAR THE COAT AND GO TO THE INCOME TAX OFFICE? I WOULD LIKE TO DRIVE
WE ARE ALSO THINKING OF THE JEWELLERY BUSINESS
I AM SORRY, OFFICER, BUT I RESIGNED YESTERDAY I AM NOW IN THE MONEYLENDING BUSINESS

How rich is Nargis now?

The tank is being filled at the rate of ten pictures a year. Wait till it overflows.

Who are you legal heirs?

V. R. Vaidya, S. B. Jain, R. Narasimhan, S. D. Sinha, Syed Noor—all Income Tax officials. They will inherit my debts and the disgrace.

There were only a hundred people to hear Mr. Dhebar's speeches at Kharagpur?

But the Marwari papers added three zeros to the number. After all zeros don't cost anything.

Do you believe that Netaji is still living?

An ambitious Bengali can't be dead so long.

I. SIVADASA MENON (Madras)

Are you related to Shri H. M. Patel?

I was in school with him and he always stood first. See how well he has done. He is still the first.

M. R. ACHAR (Hospet)

Can you suggest some remedy for insomnia?

If it is due to the loss of your dear mother, take a dose of Ignatia 200, an hour before retiring.

DHARAM V. SAXENA (Lucknow)

How many difficulties have you surmounted so far?

A man who is continuously swimming in difficulties does not surmount any. He just keeps floating.

JYOTISH C. MOHANTY (Cuttack)

Who would be our next Finance Minister?

Don't you like Morarji Desai to be our Finance Minister and K. C. Neogi to replace Morarji as Commerce Minister?

A. G. SOMAN (Amravati)

Has Suraiya gone out of date?

Yes, the producers don't go to her for shooting dates now.

What is Nehru's greatest achievement?

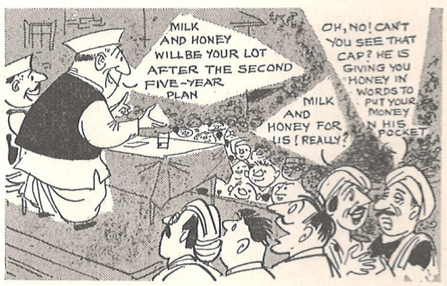
He allowed the Chagla Commission to be appointed in the Life Insurance Scandal and reminded us of the burial ceremony of the Jeep Scandal.

Is the Hindu religion safe today?

The Hindu religion is always safe. No one wants it even free. Who wants a religion which teaches a useful son to go fourteen years into exile merely to keep a bedroom promise given by his father to his wicked wife?

My views are adopted?

Well, check up their parentage carefully before you adopt thoughts or you will be nursing bastards all your life.


MILK AND HONEY WILL BE YOUR LOT AFTER THE SECOND FIVE-YEAR PLAN
OH, NO! CAN'T YOU SEE THAT CAP? HE IS GIVING YOU HONEY IN WORDS TO PUT YOUR MONEY IN HIS POCKET
MILK AND HONEY FOR US! REALLY?

PRABHU D. GUPTA (Ajmer)

Why has P. N. Arora not been able so far to star Nargis in his picture?

In Nargis' remuneration for a single picture, Arora would be able to produce two pictures.

P. S. EASWARAN (Calcutta)

Are you insured?

I have paid up all my policies.

A. K. PATTANA (Madras)

Please suggest some treatment for typist's cramp?

Every new girl from the South looks like a stone goddess from the sculpture of the Meenaxi Temple. This one is named Lalitha Rao and we can meet her in "Konjum Salangai", an exciting tale produced by M. V. Raman.

Take a dose of Magnesia Phos 12x. Repeat the dose if necessary after half an hour. I have helped many pianists with this drug.

What is the difference between an Indian Muslim and a Kashmiri Muslim?

The same between a son and a son-in-law! The latter uses the daughter also with the dowry.

WHAT? ONLY MONEY? WHERE IS THE DAUGHTER FOR MY BED?
SHEIKH SAHIB, SINCE WE ADOPTED NEUTRALITY, NO DAUGHTERS HAVE BEEN BORN. YOU CAN USE THE OLD PRE-INDEPENDENCE MODEL ALREADY WITH YOU
DADDY, GIVE HIM THE BOOK ON FAMILY PLANNING WHICH MOTHER READS

INDER PRAKASH (Ambala)

If Tanuja embraces you?

In that family everyone embraces me and feels more secure afterwards.

MANOHAR LAL VIRMANI (Dehra Dun)

If two eunuchs are married?

You will get a small "Welfare" State.

M. MANAVALAN (Pakala)

My wife and I have an idea of taking a joint life insurance policy?

First make sure how much actual cash the Life Insurance Corporation of India has still got.

B. C. MIRCHANDANI (New Delhi)

Jayaprakash Narayan says: "Parliamentary democracy is not suited to India."

But where do we have a Parliamentary democracy? Nehru's circus with a majority of Congress brutes is a one-man show.

PREM C. SINHA (New Delhi)

Wherein lies the power of India?

We have fertile beds and evergreen cradles.

Can you call yourself fashionable?

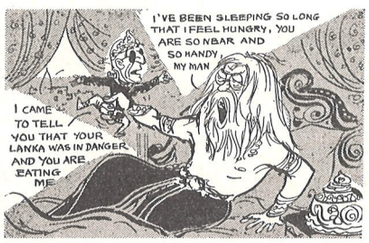
I am a man with a rosary round my neck. That is rather old-fashioned I think.

What will be the effect of Egypt-Syria merger on Middle East politics?

The Arabs are now uniting in hatred of Israel. If they fail to destroy Israel, as they will, they will destroy each other. Unity built on common hatred cannot survive. These Arabs do not realize that Israel is the foster child of America and has the hydrogen bomb in her nursery.

Do you think Rajaji has taken a realistic stand vis-a-vis the official language of the Union?

Yes, Rajaji is right but he is waking up a Frankenstein to convince the Congress dictators.


I'VE BEEN SLEEPING SO LONG THAT I FEEL HUNGRY, YOU ARE SO NEAR AND SO HANDY MY MAN
I CAME TO TELL YOU THAT YOUR LANKA WAS IN DANGER AND YOU ARE EATING ME

RAM L. NAKRA (Jullundur)

Are you the type of man who knows no defeat?

Who bothers about victory or defeat? I keep fighting. Action is my religion.

May I fall in love with a Sindhi girl, sir?

Don't you need her permission? Or Punjabis don't need a girl's permission?

Whenever I see a girl going about in pants, I wonder. You?

I don't. It is only the sari that stretches one's imagination.

Does Tendulkar make use of Health Permits?

A Health Permit needs a Cash Memo. Tendulkar does not believe in cash memos.

I hear Krishna Menon is bullet-proof?

Yes, bullets are expensive these days.

Do you become a lamb inside your home?

A lamb between two wives will be steak for two women.

Abdullah now says: "You Indians made me impotent?"

Only his girl-friends in New Delhi can certify that.

My neighbour prepares breakfast, washes babies and scrubs floors early in the morning while his wife snores in the bed?

An American neighbour!

VIR B. S. CHAUHAN (Mainpuri)

Rajaji is opposing Hindi?

Rajaji has to oppose something to pose all the time.

PASHUPATI NATH SINGH (Patna)

If I abuse Bengalis?

If that fills their empty stomachs, do it.

A "chaprasi" is better paid than a teacher in Nehru's State?

And an I.C.S. officer gets more salary than a minister. Nehru's entire "welfare" scheme is topsy-turvy as a result of his head resting on the ground and his feet dangling in the air.

IT WILL MAKE SOME SENSE ONLY IF YOU STAND ON YOUR FEET AND READ IT
HE FEELS DIZZY ON HIS FEET. THE OLD BOY HAS VARICOSE VEINS
HOW DOES KRISHNAMACHARI COME IN THIS? NONSENSE!

PREM C. SINHA (Arrah)

Would Nehru have us believe that Krishna Menon is the chosen mouthpiece of the nation?

We have two nations in India—one of Nehru nationals and the other of the Indian people. Krishna Menon is the bagpipe of the former.

Are income tax officers lively enough?

Devils are always lively.

Is your city full of rumours?

In Bombay rumour has a very short life

PRIZE WINNERS FOR MARCH

1st Prize to Mrs. Prakash (New Delhi); 2nd Prize to Harish Chand (Delhi); 3rd Prize to A. K. Pattana (Madras); 4th Prize to M. Manavalan (Pakala) and 10 consolation prizes to the following: Pashupati Nath Singh (Patna); Hemchandra B. Patil (Koppal); A. Srinivasulu (Cavalry Barracks); K. Ramakrishna Rao (Tenali); Miss Asha Chengappa (Mysore); Phan Prakash (Lucknow); S. Vittal Rao (Madras); Mahesh C. Soti (New Delhi); Surinder P. S. Deol (Haripur) and C. Rengarajan (Karaikudi). Money orders are being sent to all the prize winners.

because people are on the bread-hunt all the time.

Should I take almond and honey to improve my health?

Take fresh air and exercise. They cost nothing and return excellent dividends. Dalmia has been taking honey and almonds for years and see how he looks.

Nehru is aware of the fact of low standards in our public life?

That increases his stature. So the standards are directly encouraged.

Do train accidents puzzle you, Mr. Patel?

No, I know the Communist game.

J. DAKSHINAMOORTHY (Bolarum)

I have a great desire to see my beloved in tears.

Put a drop of glycerine in her eyes and you'll get a bucket of pearly tears.

ROOP H. KALYANI (Calcutta)

Sindhi girls are the best-dresed girls in India. Do you agree?

No. Sindhi girls use expensive material but they don't know how to dress. I think Punjabi girls do better with lesser material.

R. C. BHATNAGAR (Poona)

At what address should Nargis be congratulated?

Chateau Marine, Marine Drive, Bombay 1.

KANHAIYA ADVANI (Bombay)

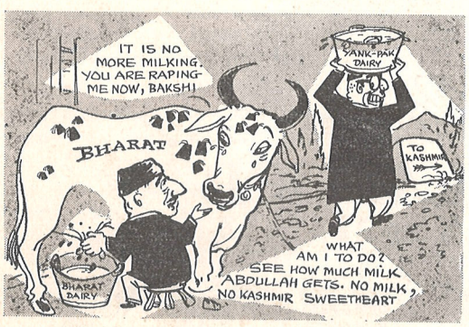
I want to see you the husband of at least five wives?

Private enterprise is not encouraged in our country. To get five women round me I'll have to become the Prime Minister and control the public sector.

C. RENGARAJAN (Karaikudi)

Will Abdullah oust Bakshi?

Only if he gets enough money from Pakistan and America. Kashmiris follow money.


IT IS NO MORE MILKING. YOU ARE RAPING ME NOW, BAKSHI
BHARAT
BHARAT DAIRY
TO KASHMIR
WHAT AM I TO DO? SEE HOW MUCH MILK ABDULLAH GETS. NO MILK, NO KASHMIR SWEETHEART

What is so attractive about Western dancing that many Indians have taken to it?

They can hold many women in their arms without having to prove their manhood.

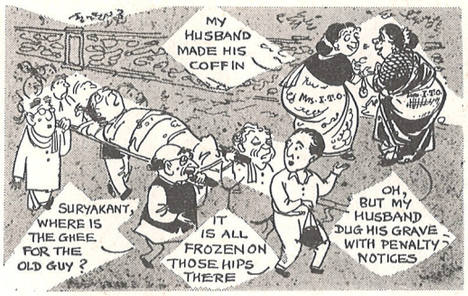
I predict that you will have no occasion to use your jail kit?

Which means that you want me to be hunted all the time. You are not a friend, Rengarajan.

S. D. SHUKLA (Nowgong)

Reduce your weight. You are becoming very bulky.

I want to burn in my own fat as there will be no ghee left to pour on my pyre.


MY HUSBAND MADE HIS COFFIN
Mr. I.T.O.
SURYAKANT, WHERE IS THE GHEE FOR THE OLD GUY ?
IT IS ALL FROZEN ON THOSE HIPS THERE
OH, BUT MY HUSBAND DUG HIS GRAVE WITH PENALTY NOTICES

ALEX JOSEPH (Bombay)

Is it mere luck or hard work that is required to become the hero in a film?

It is all luck. There is little hard work in this job and less talent.

Babs, escape to Pakistan from the income-taxwallas?

Pakistan? I am a Hindu, Alex, and a Hindu does not leave his cradle so easily. Syed Noor, the Commissioner of Income Tax, may fly to Pakistan some day but not Baburao Patel.

Difference between C. D. Deshmukh and T. T. Krishnamachari?

Do you know the difference between Tata shares and Mundhra scrips?

What is your opinion about Cecil B. DeMille's "The Ten Commandments"?

It is a picturesque portrait of Jewish greatness hung by a thin thread of anti-Communist propaganda.

MISS MANIK BHANDARE (Bombay)

Does Panditji still love and admire Sheikh Abdullah?

When Sheikh Abdullah starts collecting a lakh of people for his meetings, Nehru will again begin to embrace him. Nehru follows people, not principles.

Macmillan did not wear the Gandhi cap like the Russian leaders?

An Englishman is more honest.

Who is this G. N. Pai, your first prize winner?

He is the man who types and signs your letters.

Is Shri Baburao a scoundrel?

That is what the rulers think. And when rulers think that way you get a Christ or a Socrates.

Is M. V. Raman handsome?

Jayashree thinks so these days.

K. KANNAN (Ipoh)

Need any help?

Yes, all the help you can give plus prayers.

HARIRAM G. JUGAT (Bombay)

Which is the oldest flag in the world?

Bhagwa Zenda, the Aryan flag. It was the first national symbol of manhood and sacrifice in the world.

S. NAIDU (Hyderabad)

Do you know, Mr. Patel, that 'filmindia' is the only monthly magazine that monopolises the readers' market?

I know it and that is why I am still slaving at it otherwise I would have joined the Tatas and bought a Mercedes Benz by now.

DEVINDER K. SOOD (Delhi)

When Lillian can't speak Hindi fluently why was she given a role in a Hindi picture?

Who cares for her small words? Didn't you see her loudspeakers?

Rs. 300/- EVERY MONTH IN 14 PRIZES

The following prizes will be awarded every month for questions which are considered interesting or elicit interesting replies in the "Editor's Mail".

1st Prize: Rs. 100|-; 2nd Prize: Rs. 50|-; 3rd Prize: Rs. 30|-; 4th Prize: Rs. 20|- and 10 Consolation Prizes of Rs. 10|- each.

A reader can ask as many questions as he likes but those letters which bear the Priority Coupon will be answered first. A reader gets three coupons free per copy and he has therefore the chance to catch the bus thrice every month. Questions should be neatly written, or typed if possible, with some blank space left between two questions. It is in this blank space that the editor writes his replies. Unless the letters are signed they won't be considered.

In awarding prizes, the editor's decision shall be final and absolutely binding and no correspondence will be entertained about the distribution of the prizes.

The names of the prize-winners will be announced in "Filmindia" every month and the prize money will be remitted by money order.

Cut the coupons below and fix them to your questions if you want to be answered quickly.

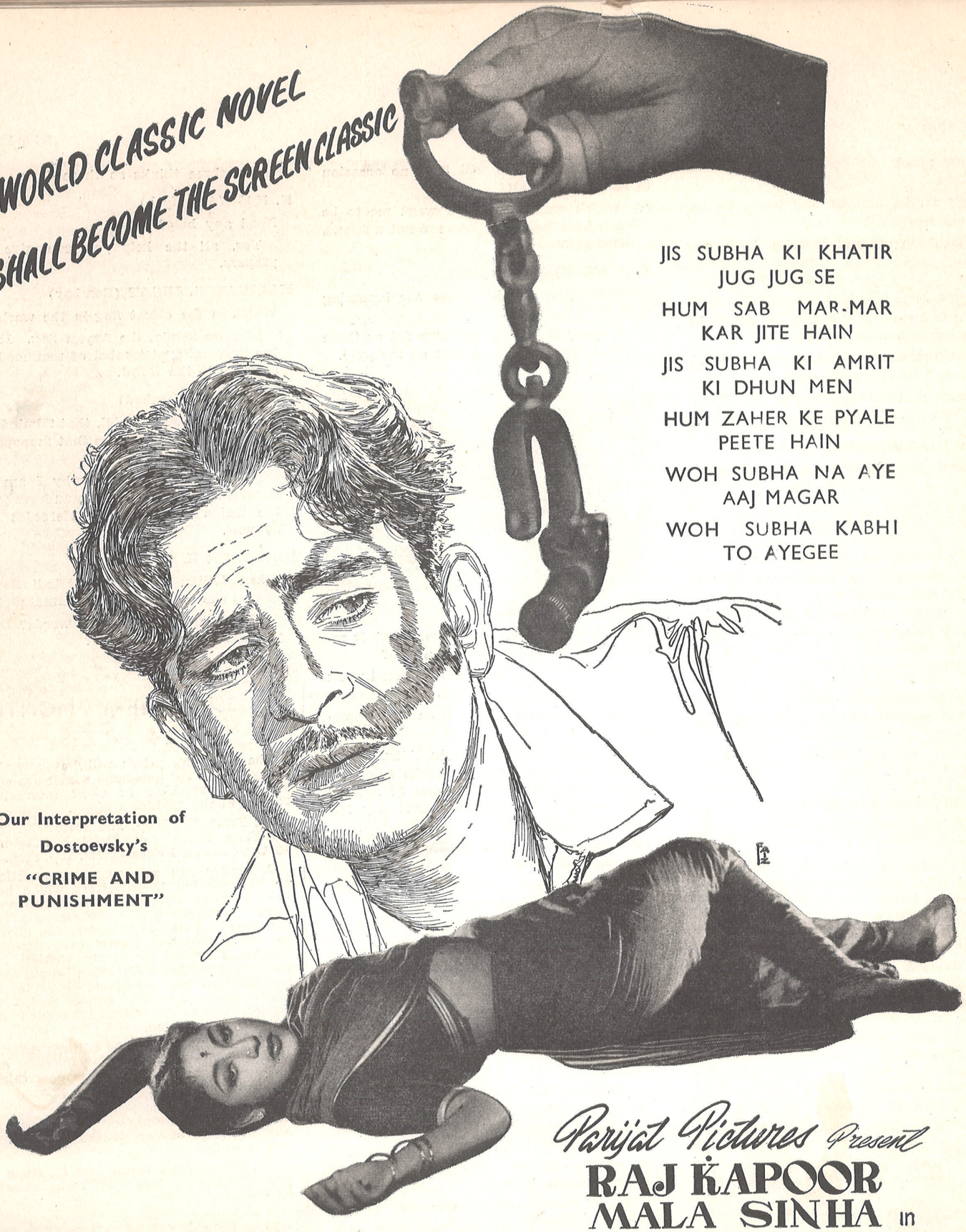
1 PRIORITY COUPON
CUT HERE
MARCH 1958

2 PRIORITY COUPON
CUT HERE
MARCH 1958

3 PRIORITY COUPON
CUT HERE
MARCH 1958

WORLD CLASSIC NOVEL
SHALL BECOME THE SCREEN CLASSIC

JIS SUBHA KI KHATIR
JUG JUG SE
HUM SAB MAR-MAR
KAR JITE HAIN
JIS SUBHA KI AMRIT
KI DHUN MEN
HUM ZAHER KE PYALE
PEETE HAIN
WOH SUBHA NA AYE
AAJ MAGAR
WOH SUBHA KABHI
TO AYEGEE



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MALA SINHA in

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NANA PALSIKAR — MISRA — REHMAN

Dialogue: MADHOK *Photography:* KRISHAN SAIGAL *Sound:* ALLAU DIN *Art Direction:* BASAK

Distributors:

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C.P.C.I.: M/s. Mahesh Pictures, Tuko Gunj, G.P.O., Indore.
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MIDDLE EAST M/s. M. Dialdas & Sons, 190, Princess Street, Bombay-2.
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RAJASTHAN: M/s. George Talkies Circuit, Jodhpur.
DELHI, U.P.: M/s. Shama Distributors (Pvt.) Ltd., Asafali Road, New Delhi.

For Remaining Territories Contact:— **PARIJAT PICTURES,** Ranjit Studios, Dadar, BOMBAY-14.

This section is the monopoly of "JUDAS" and he writes what he likes and about things which he likes. The views expressed here are not necessarily ours, but they carry weight because they are written by a man who knows his job.

CHAGLA COMMISSION FOR INCOME TAX NEEDED

When a taxpayer finds that he has been wrongly and arbitrarily assessed by the Income Tax Officer—an inevitable phenomenon these days—the taxpayer has two remedies under the Income Tax Act. One is an application to the Commissioner for revision of his case under Section 33A and the other is an appeal to the Appellate Assistant Commissioner under Section 30.

In the good, old British days the word "justice" brought out the best traits in the racial character of the British and the taxpayers almost invariably took advantage of Section 33A and went into revision before the Commissioner. They knew the British Commissioner to be generally a man of honour and high principles and expected from him a judicial decision. Very rarely taxpayers rushed to Appellate Assistant Commissioners under Section 30. Thus in the British days the Appellate work was much less and the Appellate Assistant Commissioners were fewer in number.

But things are different today. The justice which the slaves once got from their British masters has been replaced by inequity and coercion of a free people by their own rulers. Many Commissioners today are "talatis" of tax-collection. They are no longer judicial officers with pride and principles of justice in their work. They are only umpires of a revenue cricket team organized to rob and punish the taxpayers by hook or by crook. These Commissioners operate under an annual zonal quota system and their work is evaluated by the amount of tax collected in their zones every year. As this quota is raised every year by the rulers to meet the dowries of various Mundhras, the Commissioners have to resort to more and more foul practices in their one-sided game of tax-collection. There may be a few exceptions to this rule but by and large the entire cadre of Commissioners consists of a group of people who have pledged their honour and character to the State and become merely willing pawns of power to fleece the people.

No taxpayer trusts the Income Tax Commissioner these days. The taxpayer knows that the average Commissioner lacks the basic sense of equity which inspires faith in the taxpayer. The taxpayer, therefore, scrupulously avoids revision of his case by the Commissioner under Section 33A and seeks his remedy in appeal before the Appellate Assistant Commissioner under Section 30. The present tax records will amply prove this statement. For every 100 cases that go before the Appellate Assistant Commissioner, hardly 2 cases go into revision before the Commissioner. These departmental statistics will show that the Commissioners have completely forfeited the confidence and respect of the taxpayers. The reason for this misfortune is that by and large the Commissioners have no character of their own and acquire their scruples from the political complexion and urgent necessities of the State.

Not that taxpayers get justice from the Appellate Assistant Commissioners. Justice is rare at this appellate stage also, but the taxpayer still has a remedy in appeal left in which he can appeal against the decision of the Appellate Assistant Commissioner to the Appellate Tribunal—a "Gram Panchayat" of law and revenue in an unholy wedlock. But the taxpayer takes this longer and more hopeful risk because in revision before the Commissioner (under Section 33A) the taxpayer has no chance of further appeal, the Commissioner's decision being final and legally binding.

We shall not deal with the judicial farce—and it is a farce usually—in these appellate stages. We shall keep this subject for another occasion giving examples of how the prejudices and slavishness to self-interest colour the decisions of these tax dignitaries to the utter ruin of the taxpayers.

Fear is writ large on that face. When a woman doesn't know what is going to happen next and she has so much to lose, she looks an eloquent picture of naked fear. No longer has the face any design left. Madhubala gives a rare performance in "Kala Pani", a social theme produced by Navketan.

The question to be answered this month is why so many cases—which means almost every case these days—have at all to go into appeal if the Income Tax Officer—the Kingpin of the Department—is supposed to be doing his work efficiently and impartially?

As there are two types of Income Tax Officers—the honest and the dishonest ones—the latter, of course, being the majority, there are two basic reasons why all cases go to the appellate stages.

We shall first deal with the honest Income Tax Officer with a modest salary and a modest ambition to rise in life. Though this type is rare he can still be discovered with the help of a microscope, not all human beings being basically evil. In an essentially corrupt department where almost every man in power is out to make money by hook or by crook, the honest Income Tax Officer is an anachronism. He is always between the devil and the deep sea. Like all Income Tax Officers, he also has his annual quota of revenue to be completed. The departmental yoke of the Inspecting Assistant Commissioner which is constantly on his neck forever keeps the honest I.T.O. furrowing the soil. This is a relentless yoke of often a most unscrupulous man who puts the brakes through his subordinate on the tax-

payer but himself rushes with a smile to collect the harvest of prestige and profits—often illegitimate profits.

The annual quota and the constant goading by the I.A.C. compel even the honest I.T.O. to make arbitrary additions to the assessment of a taxpayer. His conscience tells him that what he is doing is wrong but he often apologizes to the assessee—as an I.T.O. recently did to our knowledge—and makes arbitrary additions thereby pleasing his departmental superiors and shifting his own responsibility to the Appellate Assistant Commissioner. Placed as he is—between his ever-increasing annual quota and his inexorable superiors—the I.T.O. plays safe and apologetically says, "Sir, I am helpless. Your case is right but my service record is in the hands of others. I am adding this sum and I hope you get it off in the appeal. I'll be very happy if you win." With this apology he passes the buck to the Appellate Assistant Commissioner and lands the taxpayer into a long tale of tears and tragedy. This coward with a biting conscience has thus protected himself without any thought of observing pride and principles in his work. The case goes into appeal.

Let us now come to the second reason—the patently dishonest Income Tax Officer who usually works hand in glove with the Inspecting Assistant Commissioner. They are partners in crime and teams like these have always made huge fortunes. They usually operate on big assessees whose assessments involve lakhs of rupees in taxes.

But at this stage you will turn round and say that these big cases also go into appeal. Quite true! These cases must go into appeal by common consent of the I.T.O., the I.A.C. and the big assessee himself. They are taken into appeal to ward off suspicion. And not only are such cases taken to the Appellate Assistant Commissioner and the Appellate Tribunal but also to the High Court and the Supreme Court if necessary. The bigger the fraud, the longer the fight. And in these big cases there is a chain of 'bakshish' boys beginning from the I.T.O. and running up to the big officers of the Central Board of Revenue. The appellate fight between the big assessee and the Tax Department is like the phoney wrestling matches staged in India with a lot of sound and fury with no one losing and all making profits. These phoney appellate fights are staged to console little taxpayers for their own miseries and to keep the newspapers quiet.

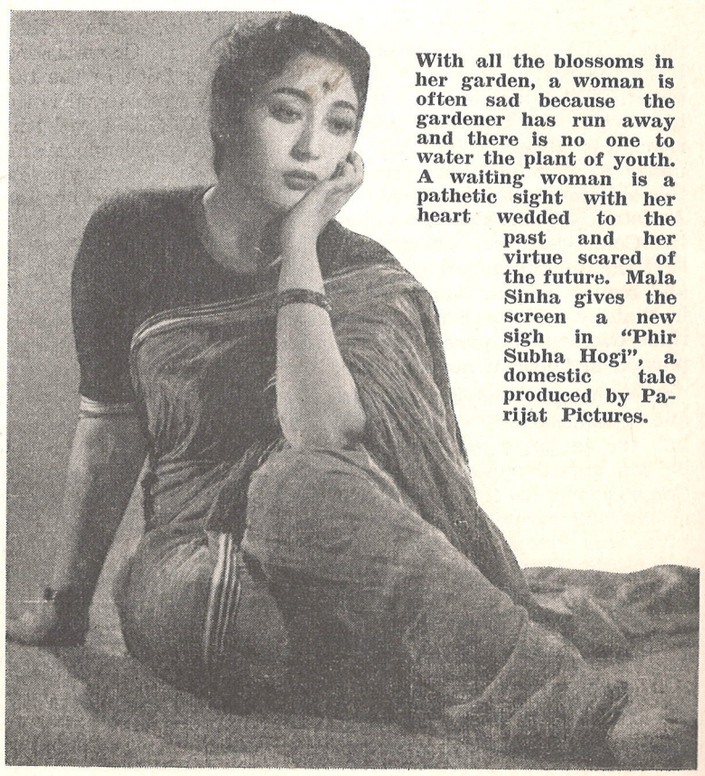
The modus operandi of these dishonest official cliques is as follows:

They make a list of all big taxpayers—particularly those known for their shady and speculative profits—say the exposed and unexposed Mundhras. Then they make a list of willing cooperative officers who will play the game without any unnecessary arguments of conscience. Then they will prevail upon the zonal Commissioner—often a party to this game—to distribute the listed big assessees evenly to various tax circles or sections so that every one has a finger in the pie. This is why many assessees are often suddenly transferred from one officer to another without any apparent and substantial reason. The list of big assessees and their sectional distribution is then quietly approved by the high officials of the Central Board of Revenue—of course, only those who are directly concerned in this racket.

The next stage is to scrutinize the cases of all these big assessees with extra care and vehemence. The enthusiasm at this stage is so great that the big assessees get tired answering a thousand unnecessary queries about their businesses and returns. They are soon ready to settle for a price and like all practical businessmen they throw out feelers through their income-tax consultants. The income-tax consultants, who are old in this game of friendly settlement and who earn more in this manner than by normal professional fees, soon get to work.

The next stage is to jointly fix up the accounts in such a manner that a profit of 50 lakhs of rupees is made invisible for a consideration of five lakhs of rupees leaving several unimportant items as "disputed" items for the appellate stages. These small "disputed" items are fixed to be fought with all sound and fury on both sides. As all the quarrel is cleverly concentrated on these items only, they alone keep attracting all the attention through the various appellate stages. The appellate authorities have no business to look into other items because the Department—or rather the official clique—has no grievance about them. Thus the suspicious items of earnings such as fraudulent drawings and transfer of large funds, black-market earnings turned into synthetic loans, false commissions, etc., all quietly escape assessment, while open expenditure such as travelling expenses, entertainment expenses, minor bonuses are made much of and fought tooth and nail with a fanfare that suggests almost a feudal enmity existing between the Tax Department and the big assessees. We have known a case fought like this right up to the Supreme Court while the parties were meeting at singing, dancing, drinking and dinner parties thrice a week at the house of an I.A.C. living in Worli for fixing up the complexion of the current cases.

This is how the appellate safety-valve is used when dishonest officers and rich assessees conspire to defraud the revenue. All the noise through the various appellate stages helps only to throw dust into the eyes of those watching such cases



With all the blossoms in her garden, a woman is often sad because the gardener has run away and there is no one to water the plant of youth. A waiting woman is a pathetic sight with her heart wedded to the past and her virtue scared of the future. Mala Sinha gives the screen a new sigh in "Phir Subha Hogi", a domestic tale produced by Parijat Pictures.

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EXPERT LADIES TO TRAIN LADIES

and they feel happy that even rich assessees are being harassed by the Department in its search for revenue. Actually the rich assessees have already turned various Income Tax officials into little Aga Khans and weighed them out in gold.

If an impartial investigating officer is appointed to collect the true stories of the assessments of those paying over Rs. 50,000|- tax annually, what we have stated will be found startlingly correct. Recently an honest and competent Income Tax Officer, with a long and good service record, was asked to come to Bombay all the way from Nasik and allowed to complete certain assessments without the man having jurisdiction to do so. When the completed cases turned out to be prejudicial to the designs of the higher officers, the man was suspended from service in Saurashtra where he was sent on a higher post in the meanwhile. This case is worth investigating fully in public interest and in the interest of purity in administration. The story of this honest officer is at once true and pathetic and deserves another Chagla Commission because the story can be easily traced to the supreme fountain of corruption—New Delhi.

If the Government appoints another Chagla Commission to look into the day-to-day working of the Income Tax Department, the Commission will soon discover that more tax is collected annually by the tax officials themselves than by the State. And the money they collect is non-taxable because it quickly turns into gold, diamonds, motor cars and modern luxury goods.

With all big cases going into appeals, except those of monthly wage-earners and small assessees, for one of the two reasons given above, we shall soon have a new army of Appellate Assistant Commissioners. And we shall not be surprised if in time to come there will be as many Appellate Assistant Commissioners as there are Income Tax Officers today.

POLICE CAN STOP THIS FRAUD

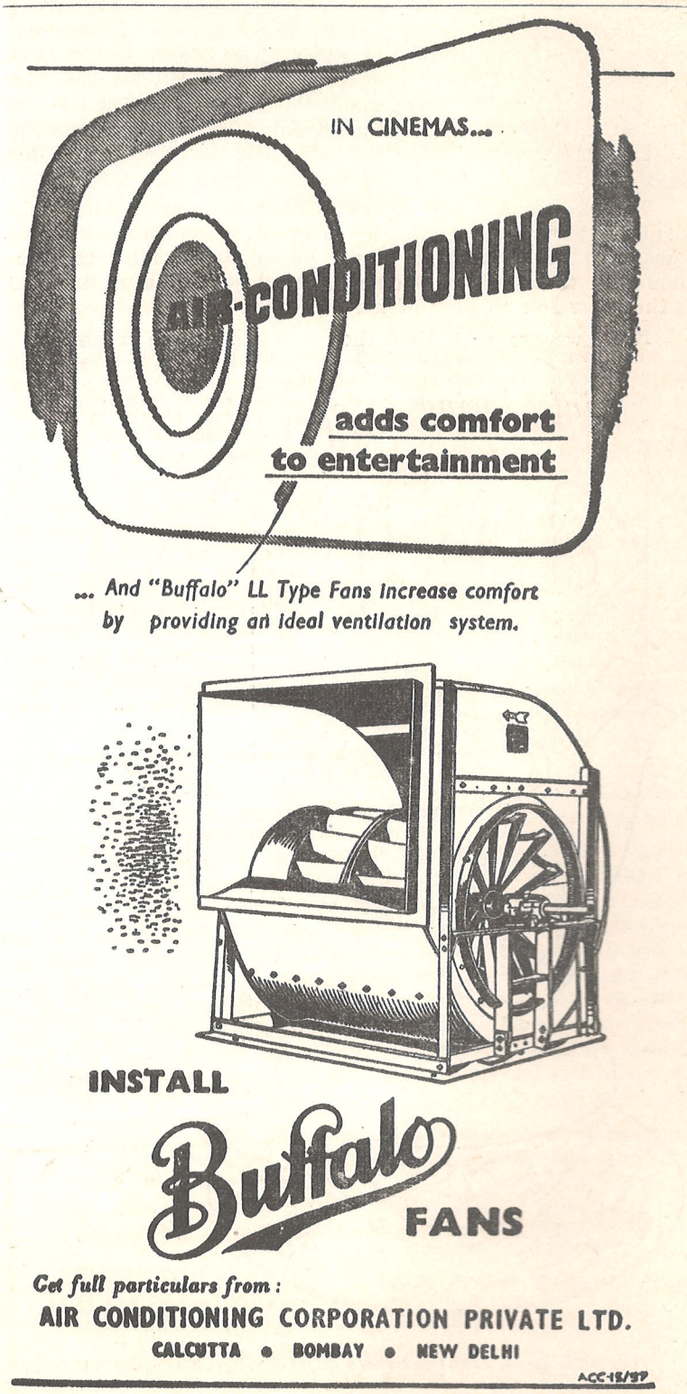
On 11th February 1958, two young college boys Vicki Kapoor and Vijay Kapoor, probably inspired by the picture "Shri 420" produced by their cousin Raj Kapoor, staged at the Vallabhbhai Patel Stadium, a show called "Stars Nite" in "aid" of Father Heras Fund. We do not know how much "aid" was left for the original purpose but the two boys obviously collected a lot of money seeing the large crowd that was cheated into paying for the "show".

These two Kapoors—who, we are sure, will soon become film producers—followed the time-honoured tradition of such "charity" shows and advertised widely in all papers their own show "Stars Nite" promising the people the presence of over 40 small and big film stars at the show and leading the public to believe that these stars would give on the night some sort of performances in aid of Father Heras Fund. The programme printed for the occasion has a list of "Stars Participating". Note the word "participating". It means "to take a part in". The artistes who were supposed to participate in this big show were: Prithviraj Kapoor, Raj Kapoor, Dilip Kumar, Dev Anand, Geeta Bali, Trilok Kapoor, Mala Sinha, Shammi Kapoor, Nirupa Roy, Ajit, Naushad, Vasant Desai, Shanker Jaikishen, Anil Biswas, Md. Rafi, Chetan Anand, Talat Mahmood, Madan Mohan, Manna Dey, David, Sajjan, Sitara Devi, Meena Kapoor, Agha, Anwar Hussein, Mukesh, Bhagwan, Kum Kum, Shammi, Johnny Walker, Manohar Deepak, Jayant, Manmohan Krishna, Rafique Ahmed, Neeta, Sheikh, Bimla Kumari, Shetty and troupe and several others.

From this imposing list hardly six turned up on the night of 11th February 1958.

Now how did these two young men proceed about what people thought to be a most merciless fraud? They first secured the Vallabhbhai Patel Stadium where all public and Government functions are held, thereby acquiring in a minute an established respectability of a popular venue. Those in charge of the Stadium probably thought that they were helping a good cause when they agreed to hire out the Stadium to these two Kapoors. The Stadium authorities did not dream that they would be ultimately made abettors in the crime of cheating the public.

Then the two boys advertised their "Stars Nite" show in all leading papers, giving the names of all stars who were supposed to "participate" in the show. In an expensive newspaper like "The Times Of India", the advertisements appeared continuously for seven days from 4th February '58 to 11th February '58. The prices of admission were: Rs. 10|-, Rs. 5|-, Rs. 3|- and Rs. 2|-. The range of prices thus covered all pockets



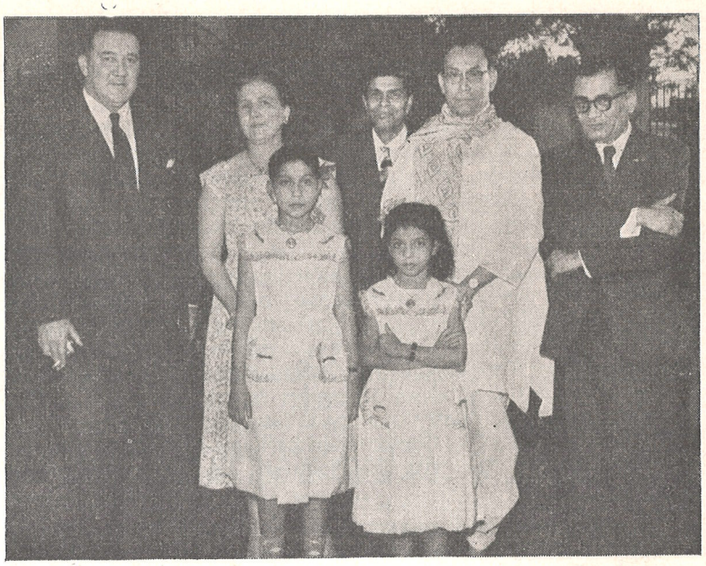
of various sizes. Police permission and tax exemption, as required by law, must have, of course, been secured in advance for the good cause of establishing a micro-film library of ancient Indian relics in memory of Father Heras. The usual messages of encouragement were got from the usual people who are usually ready with their usual blessings for getting usual publicity for themselves. Thus V. Krishna Menon, S. K. Patil, Morarji Desai, Artaza—Spanish Ambassador, Cardinal Gracias—Archbishop of Bombay, Murarji J. Vaidya—President of the Indian Merchants' Chamber, Balenchana—the Consul of Spain and Fazal I. Rahimtoola. These recommendation chits helped the two boys and their Committee also to secure some advertisements for the programme.

The Committee, which helped these two little Kapoors, consisted of: Miss Khorshed Baria, Miss Perin Kuka, Miss Meher Kuka, Mr. Benson Abraham, Mr. George Abraham, Mr. Gul Asrani, Mr. Giri Chudasama, Mr. Mahendra Chudasama, Mr. Gerry DeSouza, Mr. Pramodh Jain, Mr. Harish Jaipuria, Mr. Harish Kapoor, Mr. Girja Khetan, Mr. Pravinkumar Tejoo Kaya and Mr. Iqbal Yusuf—all college students.

The two Chudasamas in the Committee seem to have looked after the police permission. The advertisements with star names and the enthusiasm of the young people filled the Stadium with thousands of people, each one of whom at the end of the show felt cheated of his admission price.

Now, we are sure that these young people meant well.

introducing
"Kamal"
New 'Kamal' teasets are the latest addition to Bengal Potteries' Fine Earthenware range. Graceful simplicity with sculptured lines and moulded contours characterizes the new 'Kamal' shape. The pattern illustrated is 'Magnolia'—a striking interpretation of the richly exotic flower; gilt edgings complete the decoration. There are other lovely patterns in 'Kamal' teasets—ask your dealer to show them to you.
FINE EARTHENWARE
BENGAL POTTERIES LIMITED
Sole Selling Agents: Allied Distributors & Co. 33, Brabourne Road, Calcutta 1



Our popular music director Sachin Dev Burman was recently felicitated by the Gramophone Company in Calcutta. From left to right: Mr. J. E. George, the General Manager of the Gramophone Co., Mrs. George, Mr. K. Chatterji, Sachin Dev Burman and Mr. P. K. Sen. The little ones with wondering eyes are Pratima Chatterji and Kajal Chatterji.

They are too young and too well-brought up to stoop to crime so soon. All these people come from good families and they have no need to stage phoney shows in their own aid. We, therefore, straightway acquit these young people of any intention to cheat the public.

But the show as it turned out to be did end in the public being cheated. And that is a crime under Section 415 of the Indian Penal Code punishable with fine or imprisonment extending to one year or both.

Now it is clear that these enthusiastic young people were cheated by most of our big stars who must have promised these young people their full support for the cause and the show as film artistes have always been doing in the past. And as has been the usual habit with these stars they did not turn up at the show and cruelly let down a group of honest and enthusiastic young people sweating for a good cause.

It is no use giving one more sermon on character to our film folks. It has been proved a hundred times that they are people without conscience and character. But we do expect from them some decency and human sentiment especially in their dealings with raw, inexperienced youngsters. It was at once caddish and cruel to let down these young people so badly and in doing so make them unnecessarily and undeservedly look like so many hardened criminals.

Such "Star Nites", "Star Cricket" and "Star Hockey" have been an old racket which began with our misplaced sympathy for Sheikh Abdullah and his unreliable Kashmiris. It has been repeated for various reasons by various racketeers for various gains. Most of the time the public has been cheated of the promised show because the stars, who were advertised as participating, never turned up. We feel the cruelty of this racket all the more because this time our young college folks have been stabbed in the back.

Now, this public cheating in the name of charity can be easily prevented by the police authorities if only some of the police officials would not be so keen on being thrilled in meeting the film stars in shady corners.

The law of the land lays down that all public shows require prior police permission. When such a charity show is

planned, all that the police authorities have to do is to insist on the organisers obtaining a signed undertaking from every participating film star and keeping the original of such an undertaking on the police file. This undertaking would automatically amount to a legal contract and its breach would render the film artiste liable to legal damages.

Unless such undertakings in original of all the participating film stars are attached to the application for permission to perform, no permission to perform should be given by the police authorities. Doing this will protect the public from being cheated by our film stars, either directly or indirectly.

Our police authorities seem to have forgotten the most important aspect of their duty viz. to prevent crime. It is the primary duty of the police to take all steps to prevent crime and protect the public from being cheated or injured.

It is high time that the police took serious precautions in such charity rackets and stopped shows calculated to cheat the public, designedly or innocently. It is a shame that in a show sponsored by a Committee in which two young lads bore the name of a top police official of the city, people should get a cause to say that they were cheated of their money.

The police authorities thus became abettors in this crime by their inefficiency and utter lack of imagination. Let us hope we do not have to complain again.

THE STORY OF AN UNGRATEFUL AMERICAN

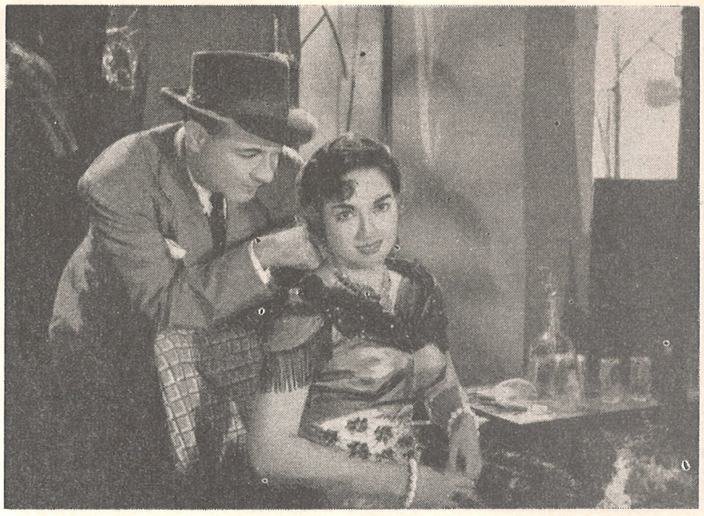
"High" is a new American magazine, published every alternate month, and sold for 35 cents a copy. Because it contains nude and semi-nude coloured photographs of beautiful women, it has become quickly popular and already several million copies are being sold in America alone. Like Earl Carroll, the well-known night-club of Hollywood which has its trade design written across its gateway in the following words: "Through these portals pass the most beautiful women in the world", "High" also claims: "Through these pages pass the most beautiful women in the world" and as at Earl Carroll, they seem to pass through, leaving most of their clothes at home.

"High" seems to be a well-financed magazine planned for a specific purpose. And the purpose is to shout that the Americans are the most civilized people in the world. And this is sought to be proved in the usual Anglo-American manner by abusing other people and calling them primitive savages without character and morals.

We are not concerned with what "High" writes about other people but in its December 1957 issue it has published an illustrated article, "Adventure Road", written by E. Alexander Powell. This article tells us a few things about Nepal and the Hindus of India—things which we did not know before. Here are some of the things Alexander Powell says:

"I know of no race which has more filthy habits than the Hindus" (page 66).

On his way to the shrine of Pashupati in Nepal, Alexander Powell saw some "sadhus" and writes: "Of the innumerable types of devotees whom we passed, the most singular and loathsome were the naked ascetics known as bhairagis, who attach themselves to the great pilgrimages for purposes of gain rather than for spiritual salvation. Nearly all were stark naked, some with phalli (male genital organs) a foot long. (This American was surely drunk or he didn't know how long a foot is and how long a phallus should be)..... On the buttocks of some was painted the namam symbolic of the female genital organ. Bodies smeared with ashes and cow dung, faces streaked with white, red or ochre, shoulder-long hair dyed orange or vermillion, matted and vermin-infested beards hanging on chests as hairy as a chimpanzee's, these "holy men" were as grotesque and hideous as the creatures of a disordered brain.



Motilal, an old sinner, knows where a woman's fur is situated. The touch of an old expert seems to thrill Shakila in "Hathkadi", a social theme produced by Dhanwant Shah for D. S. Films.

"Both the male and female bhairagis are as devoid of any moral sense as the beasts they hold sacred. They copulate with each other or with any one else, (we hope Powell was not chased by a female bhairagi) shamelessly, openly, anywhere, in temples or beside the road, whenever the opportunity offers.

"Though at night the common run of pilgrims stretched themselves on the bare ground, the holy men demanded lodgings in the wayside villages. If there was a young daughter in the household—and by that I mean a girl over five years of age—the bhairagi demanded her for the night. And invariably got her, for the ignorant, superstitious and devout peasants were flattered to have their daughters deflowered by holy men, servants of the gods. It is safe to say that the only virgins left in the countryside after the pilgrims had passed were infants in arms. Not even female goats and donkeys escaped." (page 68).

Are these the people of whom Minister Gulzarilal Nanda has established an association called the Sadhu Sevak Samaj?

Here is some more Powell stuff: "The worship of the unclean goddess (Shakti) is characterized by unspeakably vile rites and debauches. At these orgies devotees from all castes and of both sexes mingle promiscuously..... When the meat has been disposed of, fiery native liquors are passed around, every one drinking from the same vessel. Opium and other narcotics follow, thus working up the carnal instincts of the devotees to an apogee of sensual frenzy. Their erotic desires stimulated to madness, the male and female worshipers pass the remainder of the night in a saturnalia compared with which the festivals of Aphrodite must have been Sunday school picnics.

"According to officials and missionaries (And we know now whom Powell met—the kind, old missionaries) who should be fairly well-informed, having lived amid Hindus for years, the ritual of the left-hand Shakti culminates in offering a full-grown maiden and a jar of liquor to Bhavani. The girl, stark naked, stands in an obscene posture before the altar while priests and worshippers chant a supplication to the goddess to partake of the liquor and enter into the virgin's body (But a little earlier Powell states that the only virgins found were infants in arms. Then how did this one grow up to maidenhood?) This Bhavani does vicariously, delegating to the priests the enjoyment of the girl and the liquor. The goddess's assent is the signal for a wholesale orgy in which every one takes part.

Whatever Producer Vasan does he does in a grand manner. From elephants to sadhus he must have them by hundreds to fill up his camera block. Here are two pscudo-sadhus—Agha and Shammi —probably perverting religion or preaching one of their own in "Raj Tilak", a thundering spectacle produced by Vasan for Gemini.

Should a husband see his wife in another man's arms he has no ground for complaint, for on these occasions every woman becomes public property..... (Don't the American women get into wrong arms while doing the Rock 'n Roll?) I was swept by a feeling of revulsion, a nausea of the soul, as though I had peered over the edge of the Pit..... Nepal was the greatest show on earth." (page 102).

We won't defend the Hindus or the Nepalese or even the goddesses. We shall leave that work to the free Government of a free people. The Sadhus we leave in the hands of our revered President who often washes their feet in humble veneration. No one can defend the virtues of a god better than his devotee. But we shall point out a couple of features of this abusive article—features which should make our people think twice about Americans and their new game.

1. E. Alexander Powell, the author, states in his article, that he visited Nepal with his cousin, William G. Gallowhur, when Sir Stanley Jackson was the Governor of Bengal. Sir Stanley Jackson was the Governor of Bengal from 1927 to 1932. Thus Powell's fantastic story about a peace loving people is at least 26 years old, if not more. Now we want to know why was this story revived in December 1957? Had it something to do with Kashmir, Krishna Menon, Pakistan and the rest of the racial complications which American politicians have created these days? It is worth finding out the source of inspiration for this article published so late in the day. It must have been an urgent and specific purpose.

2. E. Alexander Powell states in his article that it was virtually impossible for any men from the West to get into Nepal but Sir Stanley Jackson somehow fixed it up with Sir Chandra Shumshere Jung, the then Prime Minister of Nepal, who happened to be in Calcutta for medical treatment. Accepting these two Americans as Sir Stanley's guests, the Prime Minister of Nepal asked the Governor of a Nepalese frontier province to attend to the guests personally. The guests were taken to Nepal in the Prime Minister's private saloon attached to the train. After the train journey ended at Bhimpedi, Mr. Powell writes, "Awaiting us at Bhimpedi was a platoon of Gurkhas, very soldierly and businesslike in khaki shirts and shorts and broad-rimmed felt hats adorned with the silver tiger which is the emblem of Nepal. Sprawled on the sun-baked earth were a score of baggage coolies. Two white Arab stallions, beautifully turned out with English saddles, were held by turbaned syces. A drove of donkeys, girded with pack-saddles, stood dejectedly with drooping ears, and hanging heads. (The donkeys saw through the Americans). All this to take two of us into Nepal! The Prime Minister was certainly doing things in style."

The traditional hospitality of the Hindu Prime Minister was evidently wasted on this American who, 26 years after enjoying our royal hospitality, has still not been able to digest it. Racial bile had to come out by abusing the very people who treated him so royally.

America is full of such ungrateful Powells and it is time we thought seriously before we invited another American to enjoy our hospitality because we do not know which American will turn out to be another Powell and foul the very dish in which we serve him our hospitable food.

By the way thousands of copies of the "High" magazine, bringing home the abuse, are sold in hundreds of bookstalls of India. If we are short of foreign exchange, as our rulers tell us, how do we get all the exchange to import thousands of copies of such objectionable magazines? Morarji Desai, our Commerce Minister, should find an answer to that question. Or is the U.S.I.S. obliging us as it does with the American Reporter?

YOU'LL HARDLY BELIEVE —

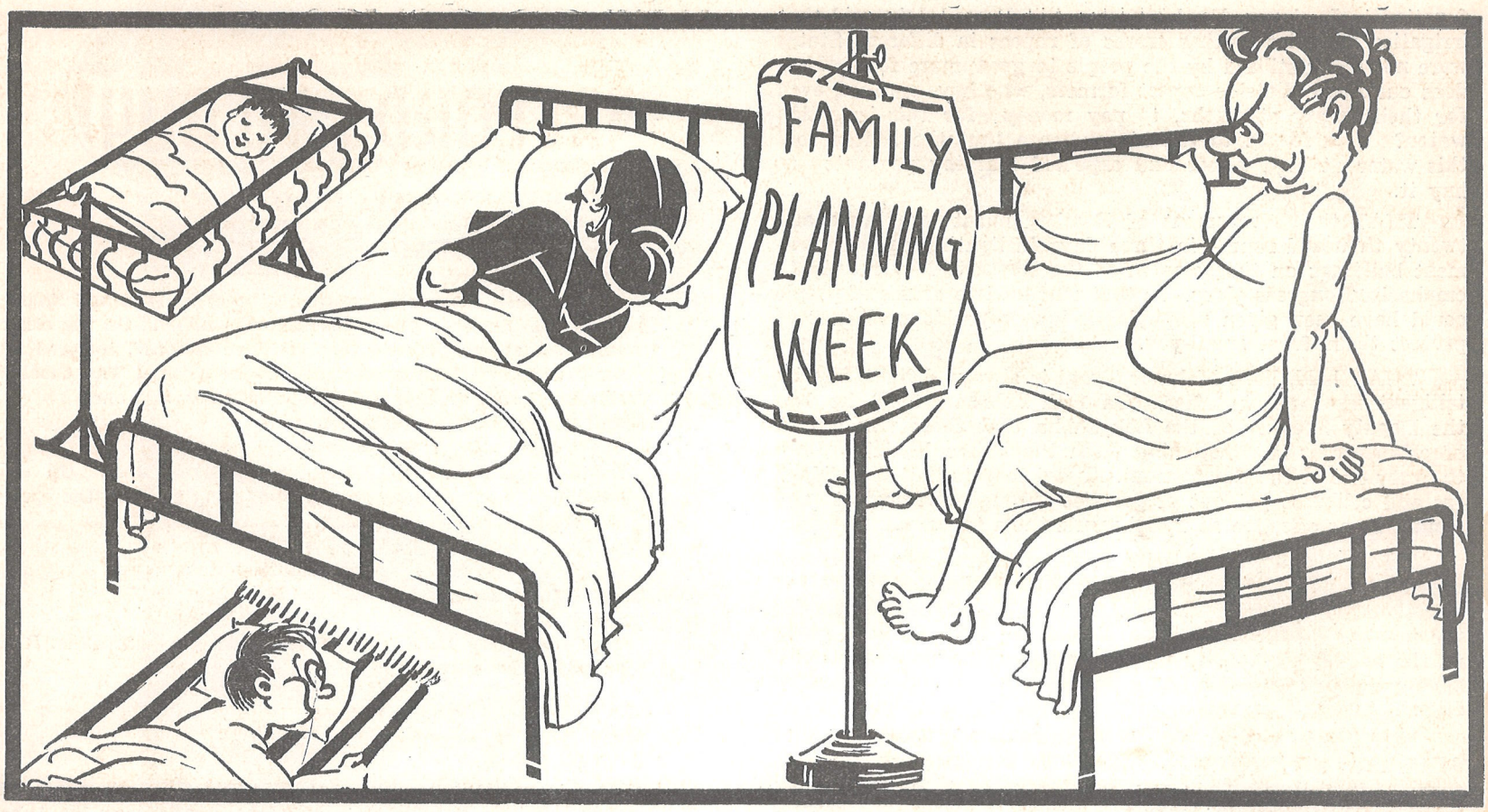
THAT Pandit Nehru is now searching for 35 more judges like Justice Chagla to probe into the administrations of the 35 Corporations run by the Government under the socialistic pattern of society. Nehru did not even know that his Government had established 35 "autonomous" Corporations till Acharya Kripalani told him so in the Lok Sabha. We think the Damodar Valley Corporation alone will require 35 Chaglas if all the frauds and crimes are to be listed before the close of the 20th century.

THAT the two little Kashmiri Pandits—Nehru and Kunzru —collided in the Rajya Sabha over the L.I.C. scandal. Nehru accused Kunzru of harbouring "prejudice, little-mindedness, narrow outlook and bias." That set fire to Kunzru and he thought T. T. K. was not exactly a Leila for the Kashmiri Majnu to become so mad. Nobody had ever called him such abusive names before. We must say Kashmir has some rare traditions in culture. Even Sheikh Abdullah is abusing his opponents these days. If Nehru can think, so openly and loudly, so many things of an old, tried, selfless public worker like Dr. Kunzru, imagine what he must be thinking of Baburao Patel.

THAT of all people Indira Gandhi, the only daughter of the New Delhi Moghul with the largest crowd of "Yes-men" round him, in a recent speech at Bombay blamed Congressmen for being "yes-men" and asked them to develop the habit of independent thinking and study. The poor girl must have been utterly disgusted with the day-and-night "yes-men" performances given round her illustrious father. And the Moghul also seems to be getting fed up. But without "yes-men" how can T. T. Krishnamachari be ever brought back?

THAT there are more idiots in the Uttar Pradesh Government than in all the States put together. They recently destroyed 5,90,000 text books because some Hindi reformers did not like a change in the Devnagri script. While another change in the script caused another 10 lakh books to be destroyed. That keeps the printing orders going and, of course, little cuts coming in. Some new tax must be levied on the people to pay for these printing orders.

THAT a Congressman never dies. On the other hand he multiplies like bacteria. C. B. Gupta, the dictator of Uttar Pradesh, who was defeated by Triloki Singh, the Praja Socialist, in the last elections, now threatens to return to power by the



wicket-gate of a bye-election. The general ban imposed on defeated Congress candidates by the Central Parliamentary Board seems to have been conveniently lifted to enable Gupta to come out of obscurity. Probably, Nehru could not find him a governorship. Don't we want a governor for Andamans?

THAT the Hindi-Chini Bhai-Bhai business has already started hurting our little children. The "Ram Leela" organized by the India-China Friendship Association ended in a tragedy when the stands at the Cross Maidan suddenly collapsed seriously injuring 34 innocent children. We always thought that children should not be made scapegoats of the Bhai-Bhai politics.

THAT our Congressmen are very serious about establishing a "Welfare" State as quickly as possible. The Congress Government in the Punjab evidently takes the slogan very seriously when it recently spent Rs. 1,04,614 on furniture alone for its Congress Ministers and additionally spends on an average from Rs. 147 to Rs. 699 per minister on water charges and from Rs. 108 to Rs. 431 per minister on electrical charges. Water we feel is absolutely needed for our Congress Ministers to rid the Assembly of the usual stink and electricity is needed to warm their celibate beds. We, therefore, approve of the expenditure. All "Welfare" must begin at the source from where it is to flow to the people.

THAT Sheikh Abdullah has refused to recognize the present Kashmir Government and has also refused to return the State property which he was using in the Kud Jail. He says the property did not belong to a rightful government. We completely agree with him because it belongs to the Indian Government who paid for it, as it did for the whole of Kashmir. Will Sheikh Abdullah, therefore, kindly return the property to the Indian Government?

THAT no one can beat the Communists in stage-craft. They always have a readymade stock of sighs, smiles, tears and tremors to be put into immediate use according to the occasion. The goat-bearded Dr. Ho Chi-Minh, the Communist President of Viet Nam, visited Rajghat with the usual flowers and probably seeing the clumsy manner in which Gandhiji's memory has been preserved, shed tears profusely and even sobbed for a while to give the correct sound effect. That moved Nehru who moved towards the venerable visitor and suddenly embraced him. After that Bhai-Bhai embrace from our little Atlas, the good, old Doctor had to use some liniment on his ribs for two days. We don't know why the American diplomats don't learn a little stage-craft.

THAT Yeshwantrao Chavan, the Chief Minister of Bombay, won the first prize at the fifth Sachivalaya Social gathering held at the Cooperage recently. The I.C.S. boys, of course, expected Chavan to win. One of them said, "He has been standing behind the mule so long that he is no longer scared of a donkey." Morarji Desai is reported to have sent Chavan a telegram of congratulations.

THAT press boys are very much in demand these days. Their range of cold coffee and samoosas seems to be stretching from politicians to singing girls. It is reported that the singing and dancing girls of Delhi recently held a press conference in one of the fashionable restaurants and pleaded with the journalists to campaign for banning prostitution and brothels from some parts of Delhi. Now the press boys are visiting brothels to study conditions on the spot.

THAT at last we have found at least one Congressman who is honest enough to admit that he does not deserve a Padma Bhushan. He is Dr. N. S. Hardikar, M.P., who founded the Congress Seva Dal and was given a Padma Bhushan recently. At a reception given in his honour, Dr. Hardikar said, "I have done nothing to be rewarded with such a title and I am going to return it with thanks to the President when I reach Delhi." But Dr. Hardikar missed the main point. These titles are given to those who do nothing. Otherwise how could G. B. Pant have got a Bharat Ratna?

THAT Congress Ministers are clever at explaining away their own failure in many ways. Speaking at a "free-khana"

function in Lucknow, Food Minister Ajit Prasad Jain said that irrigation facilities costing crores of rupees in different States were not being utilized by the people to grow more food. How does our Food Minister expect farmers, who have no food even for their empty stomachs, to pay money for this irrigation water? Jain forgot to tell his audience that the States sold this water at high prices and expected starving peasants to buy it.

THAT the Government of Bombay burnt two lakhs and twenty thousand rupees in three days in lighting up Government buildings on the occasion of the Republic Day merely to emphasize Congress glory. In that amount two crores of people could have been given prophylactic homoeopathic medicines to protect them from small-pox.

THAT bald, little Mahavir Tyagi is always delightfully intelligent when not in office. On 11th February 1958, he told the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha that there was a lack of effectiveness in functioning from the Prime Minister down to every one in the Government. Tyagi forgets that old widowers and celibates get out of practice through self-neglect and cannot be as effective as Tyagi wants them to be.

THAT film actress Kamini Kaushal has at last made her choice of a pet who can sit on her shoulders and embrace her affectionately whenever it likes. It is a monkey. She carries the monkey everywhere. You should see Rummy Sood going to the zoo every Sunday and trying to learn monkey tricks, saying that his wife still has a hangover of her old chimpanzee friend.

THAT film actress Wahida Rehman got almost frozen to death when she recently went to Simla for the outdoors of a Guru Dutt picture. They say that the noise of her chattering teeth could be heard in Ambala. Guru Dutt rescued the actress from an unfortunate end and restored body heat by non-stop massage for several days. That boy is a great first-aider.

THAT our usually bright film actress Nadira is very, very unhappy these days. She recently called a few press boys and turning on the tears she told them that she had decided to leave her Arab husband, Al Fazli, for good. Said Nadira, "I have never believed in false pride and I hate to be a hypocrite." The press boys also started weeping. But with Rita Hayworth as the ideal where is the need for all this national mourning? If an Arab was found disappointing, she can always get an Israeli. The Arab is not the only pebble on the beach.

THAT a housewife steps into the limelight only when a mistress goes out. And when a good housewife does that she gives a new rainbow to life. Raj Kapoor, the gay lad of the movies, made his friends happy when he recently took wife Krishna on a three-week holiday tour to Rumania, Bulgaria and other countries of Europe. It was her first picnic and second honeymoon and Krishna looked a little goddess of happiness. The harvest of patience is always a blessing of God.

THAT though a number of people tried hard to get a Padma Shri for Producer-director V. Shantaram—and quite a few monster petitions with Kolhapuri signatures, they say, were received by the Government—Shantaram missed the bus this time. The Jayashree divorce, fresh in the minds of the people, seems to have come in his way. Well, Shantaram should continue the white cap for a year more and he won't miss the honour next time because we are going to recommend him very strongly. If Debaki Bose deserves a Padma Shri for sleeping after "Vidyapati", Shantaram certainly deserves it more for his "Jhanak Jhanak".

THAT whatever Producer Mehboob touches turns into a romance of success. After the unique success of "Mother India" even Kum Kum, the little dancer, has become a personal hit. These days the great Dilip Kumar is also reported to have discovered new charms in Kum Kum's dancing curves. Well, art has its season of youth too.

RECORDS TO BUY

"NAYA PAISA"

(Music Director: S. Mohinder)

No. 52536 (Rafi & Shamshad)

"Aji na na karoji"

A lively duet, sung in a vigorous manner by Rafi and Shamshad, it is likely to prove popular with many. On the other side is a chorus "Ek do teen dil gaye chheen", inspired by that rock 'n roll hit song from "Rock Around The Clock". Lovers of rock 'n roll will surely vote for this one.

No. 52537 (Geeta Dutt & Surendra)

"Main tere dil ki duniya men"

Geeta lends a new flavour to this pleasing duet. On the other side is "Toba toba yeh adayen" sung by Rafi, the opening lines of which are catchy.

"TAXI STAND"

(Music Director: Chitragupta)

No. 52485 (Mohd. Rafi)

"Aana O bhaijan"

This song may have some fascination for panwallas. Rafi sings it with a swing.

"EK SAAL"

(Music Director: Ravi)

No. 52492 (Lata Mangeshkar)

"Chale bhi aao"

Here is something with a sad lilt for the serious-minded ones. On the other side is a bright chorus sung by Asha and others: "Tu jiye hazaron sal gori".

No. 52403 (Geeta & Balbir)

"Miyan mera bada eeman"

A duet for a light mood with inconsequential words. On the other side is "Dil to kisi ko dogay" sung by Rafi—a request for the bounty of love from his beloved.

No. 52404 (Lata Mangeshkar)

"Chhoom chhoom chali"

This one is likely to put speed in the lazy-footed with its swift rhythm.

"AJI BAS SHUKRIYA"

(Music Director: Roshan)

No. 52340 (Lata Mangeshkar)

"Bedardi nazaren milake"

A racy melody for those who love music with curves. On the other side is "Saaree saaree raaten" sung by Lata, describing the agony of separation.

"HOWRAH BRIDGE"

(Music Director: O. P. Nayyar)

No. 52517 (Geeta Dutt)

"Mera naam chin chin choo"

The words are meaningless but Geeta enlivens this Indianized rock 'n roll with her rendering. On the other side is a straight line song "Eent ki tukki paan ka ikka" sung by Rafi, describing the charm of Calcutta.

No. 52516 (Asha Bhosle)

"Ye kya kar dala tu ne"

The rhythm is catchy though the musical notes sound familiar. On the other side is "Main jan gayi" opening on a rather shrill note.

"SITARON SE AAGEY"

(Music Director: S. D. Burman)

No. 74563 (Mohd. Rafi)

"Zara mil ja"

Easy to sing, this one is bound to appeal to bathroom singers. On the other side is a chorus "Sambhal ke sambhal ke" with a distinctive folk air about it.

KAMINI KADAM—

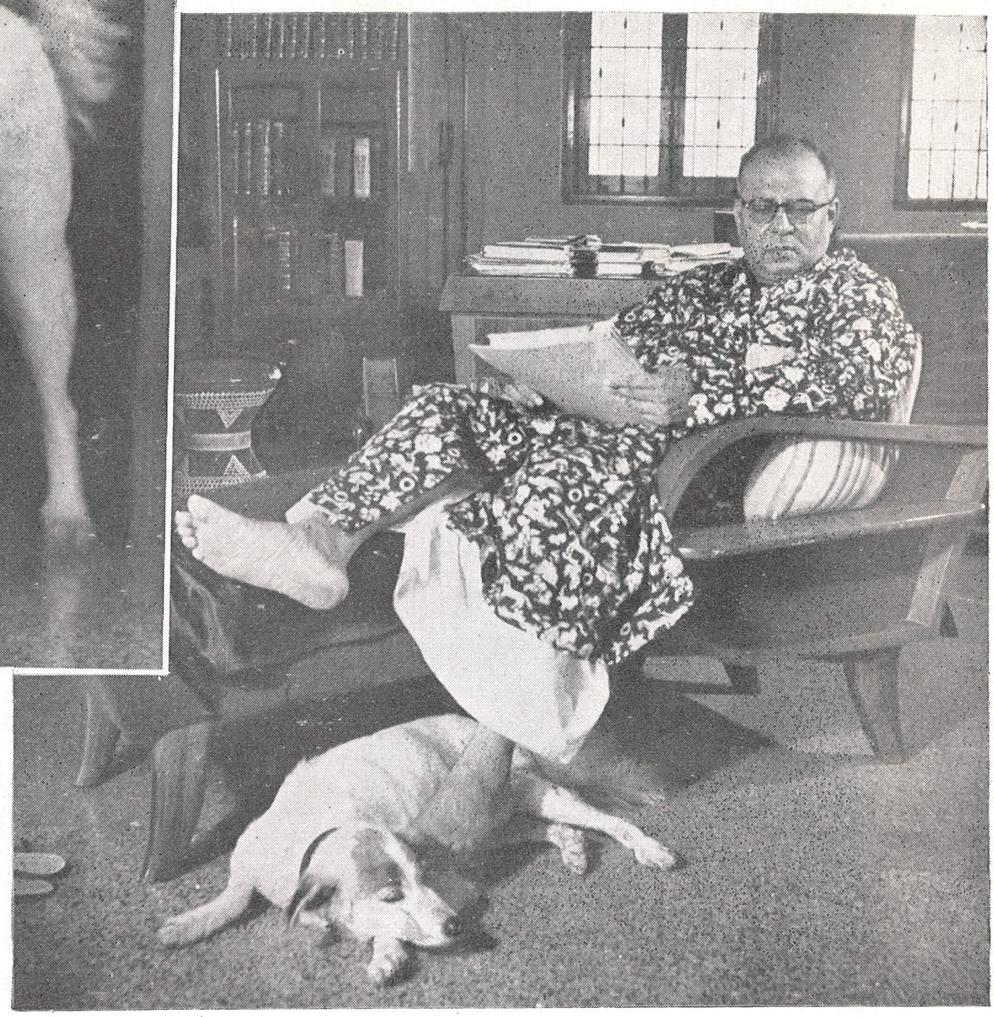
Every new face is a new problem in seduction. God seems to have given woman more faces than He himself took. Look at the coy fascination of this new face. It has the freshness of spring and the fragrance of youth trembling on the frontiers of romance. Kamini Kadam gives a new heart-ache to the audience in "Talaq", a social theme directed by Mahesh Kaul and produced by Anupam Chitra.

In Affectionate Memory Of MY PAL

★ ★

Moti — friend, philosopher and guide. At the end of the day he made me forget the hatred and jealousy I met in the Income Tax Office. In him I saw the divinity of selfless love.

★ ★



Death is a destiny. It turns happy milestones of life into agonising memories. And when it strikes, both courage and philosophy fail, because death separates. It puts a world between two loving souls and the habit of years becomes invisible in a minute. That is the agonising cruelty of death, the touch of which gives a new birth to the departing soul but leaves behind a tearful memory to those who love.

On 22nd February 1958, death struck at two places and lifted two great souls to heaven. While Nehru wept in New Delhi over the remains of his Maulana, in "Girnar" I shed tears over my pal Moti who died at 8.40 P.M. at the ripe old age of 15. His grave in "Girnar" did not need municipal water. It was softened by the affectionate tears of twenty mourners—all slaves of Moti's wagging tail.

Moti, a true Banjara, picked me up thirteen years ago, in February 1945, in Khandala, where I was spending a weekend with my wife. Moti was two years old then and he seemed to like my face and my studious habits. It was a case of love at first sight provoked by a leg of chicken with which I introduced myself to Moti. He was naturally surprised and perhaps thought that he had met a man who was extravagantly generous. Moti was used to travellers who chased out dogs or at the most threw a bone at him which they had themselves sucked dry with a vengeance. He had never come across anyone giving him a big leg of chicken with meat on it. Moti did look at me suspiciously and wondered whether I was a bit crazy. To make sure he quickly disposed of the first leg and came to me for a second one. He knew that every chicken has two legs and probably argued with himself that if he was good enough for one leg, why not for the other. I immediately saw the force of this argument and gave him the second leg. Now Moti was completely convinced that I was a bit crazy. He did not know that I had three whiskies inside me—a liquid which lends a rainbow to life and makes a man generous and sympathetic. In later years he discovered my secret and always came to me with his various wants and grievances during my whiskey hour. Moti was remarkably intelligent. He knew how to time his simple designs.

A goggled woman is a dangerous problem. You can never know where she is looking, leave alone what she is thinking. But goggles have become very popular because women have become more designing these days. Here is Krishna Kumari lending intrigue to the screen in "Mukti", a social theme produced by Gurudev Pictures.

T. T. Krishnamachari could have sat at Moti's feet and solved the L.I.C. scandal without so much national bitterness. Moti was always tactful and he spoke more sense with a few turns of his tail than many Congress leaders do with their constantly wagging tongues.

To revert to our first meeting, Moti stuck to me for the next four days and had breakfast, lunch and dinner with me. He went out for long walks with me and even slept for two nights in my bedroom to see what sort of a man I was without social wrappings. Moti knew that men were always their true selves in their bedrooms.

At the end of four days Moti said that he approved of me and would not mind accompanying me to Bombay if I cared to have a genuine pal. I had a hurried consultation with my wife. She was also flattered by Moti's approval of us and she felt honoured with Moti's proposal. But Moti had a home and an owner. The home was hardly a shelter and the owner rarely fed him. Like all human beings, however, the owner, when we asked him for Moti, suddenly produced his title-deeds to Moti and asked for Rs. 75.

Moti looked at me wondering. I saw the leg of chicken in his grateful eye. I paid the money and invited Moti to jump into the car. He did it without a second look. It seemed as if Moti had been waiting two years for his pal to come and take him to his real home.

After an 80-mile drive we arrived home. We had now a new friend. Moti had probably heard about Bombay being a city of evil. The film folks who often went to Khandala had convinced him about this. He therefore stuck to my heels and for the first seven days followed me wherever I went. After a week, however, he decided to take charge of my home and Moti announced this decision by charging at the 'dhobi' who came on Sundays. The 'dhobi', however, saved his "chicken leg" somehow.

In the years that followed Moti remained in complete charge of my home expressing his very strong disapproval of the 'dhobi' the grocer, the 'mehtar' and other odd-looking strangers who dared to call on us at odd hours. A dozen times he probed the depth of the calf muscles of some to check up whether they had blue blood. That way Moti was quite a scientist. And like all scientists he kept awake during the nights in search of new discoveries and slept during the days.

But even during the days, Moti always kept one eye on me whilst he slept with the other. That eye turned wherever I moved in the house and whenever it looked longingly at me, I sat down with Moti and talked to him for an hour.

Moti was a very engaging conversationalist. His range of subjects was very wide. For instance he was quite a connoisseur of music the way he expressed his strong disapproval of Balu Keskar's radio while he loved my wife's music. One day he pointedly asked me, "Oh, Babs, why don't you call that Balu Keskar once? I want to see what blood runs in his calves". "Oh, no, Moti," I said, "Balu's calves are so thin that his bones will stick in your teeth. Unless, of course, you want a toothpick after your mutton." The description staggered Moti. Being a natural aristocrat he did not think the idea was worth pursuing. Moti never liked any bone without meat on it.

Moti, himself, was a great musician and in this art his talent was extensive. I have never seen any one from his clan with such range and variety of tone and timbre. Moti was a very kind gentleman and he always took little Mickey for a walk but he had a great aversion to strange dogs and whenever one crossed his landscape, Moti would burst out into a non-stop operatic baritone which would clear the horizon within two minutes. And sometimes when he suddenly saw a shadow in the night he would switch on to "Darbari Kanada", an Indian melody known for its bass notes. But the best song of Moti I liked was when I came home in the evening. He would stand on the steps and tilting his head up burst out into a lyric tenor the like of which I have never heard anywhere in the world. It was a national anthem of blind loyalty. And Moti always liked to be patted for this performance even if I had a big bundle of books in my hands. He seemed to have picked up this habit from our Congress leaders who want an applause even if they open their mouths to yawn.

Every day, through thirteen years, I spent many hours with Moti discussing Congress politics, exchanging notes on the culinary art and debating the possibility of Communism with the "dhobis", "mehtars" and maidservants gatecrashing into respectable homes. Whatever Nehru may say about establishing a socialistic pattern of society, I must admit that Moti's practical arguments always convinced me more than Nehru's hollow words. The vehemence with which Moti argued I always felt that he had the real blue blood running in his veins. He often made me feel like a pariah. Had it not been for the generosity of his tail I would have got a permanent inferiority-complex. Moti did make people feel small and I was very grateful to God that I enjoyed both Moti's love and respect. And Moti extended his patronage to me without making me feel like Dhebar, the Chaplinish "penguin" of the Congress. If Nehru had met Moti, I am sure we would have had more leaders in the country with more pride and self-respect. Moti was a great teacher. He lent dignity to everything that he came across without losing his own.

It is difficult to replace such a pal. I will miss Moti and his constant guidance while writing on human affairs. He always said, "Babs, love and be loyal. Love and loyalty cannot be purchased with a leg of chicken. They are fountains of divinity. They spring from the heart. It is a pity human beings have no tails to express these divine qualities. Their faces are so evil that even in sincerity they don't express the glow of love and loyalty."

I thought over what Moti said for some days and decided to be a homoeopath to heal the sick and ailing. I began my homoeopathic practice with Moti. Ten years ago the veterinarian said that Moti had a fatty heart and should be put to sleep. Moti heard that and clung to me. In a minute he whispered to me, "Does this fool think that he has a right to take a life which God has given? Why do these human beings interfere in God's domain?" I saw sense in Moti's argument and told the veterinarian, "Let us leave it to God, doctor."

For ten years I kept Moti going strong on "Crataegus", a homoeopathic heart tonic till he reached the grand old age of 15 years and departed because of his sheer desire to travel to another world. That way Moti always had more character than I ever showed. Whenever he made up his mind, he never looked back. A Pathan once told me about this holding a piece of his calf in his hand. With the same obstinacy Moti has now gone leaving me impatient to join him in another world where there are no hatreds and jealousies. May his soul rest in peace!

Baburao Patel

23-2-1958

MALA SINHA—

A woman's face is not only a mirror of her thoughts but also a measure of her weight. Some women seem to think that greater the weight greater the personality. In the motion pictures, however, the slogan is: greater the weight greater the comedy. Mala Sinha brings a rather impressive personality to the screen in "Love Marriage", a romantic tale produced and directed by Subodh Mukerji.

Epidemics In India VII

MUMPS—

DISFIGURES CHILDREN

In their utter love for the creatures of their own labour parents always give wrong and misleading names to their babies. Thus a rickety child who shuffles off the mortal coil before its first birthday is hopefully named Amarnath (the Lord of Immortality) while one born in a heartbreaking spasm of poverty is called Karodmal (the Master of Crores). One such wrong name was obviously given to the husband of our popular film actress, Kamini Kaushal. He was called Brahma Swaroop (the face of Lord Brahma). Mr. Sood went around with that wrong name for years till his charming and intelligent wife, seeing how people reacted to the name, decided to correct it by calling her husband Rummy Sood. With the change of name Rummy became popular and even J. C. Jain, the Dalmia doodle-dandy, claimed him as a long-lost cousin. But however popular a man, be it because of his new name or his old gracious manner, he has no right to go about in a crowded society with Mumps as Rummy did one day, two years ago, at a dinner party at the Willingdon Sports Club in Bombay. Because mumps is an acutely infectious disease and easily spreads from man to man or from man to woman and vice versa.

One can understand Rummy Sood's anxiety to protect his wife from the usually hungry crowd which J. C. Jain collects at his dinner parties but the doctor, who allowed good, old Rummy to get out of bed and risk an inflammation of his testicle, which a patient of Mumps rarely misses, and at the same time expose other innocent people to the infection, was not strictly following his professional ethics.

THE DISEASE PICTURE

Now Mumps is an infectious disease of the parotid and other salivary glands. They get enlarged and inflamed. The disease is at once epidemic and contagious. It is more prone to attack children, say between 5 and 15 years or between 18 and 25 years, than adults. Rummy Sood probably got it because his approach to life is so childishly innocent. You know the human mind has a lot to do with physical ailments.

Mumps begin with swelling, heat, stiffness or soreness in one or both parotid glands (the glands situated near the ears), at the angle of the lower jaw and are often ushered with feverish symptoms such as fever, shivering, general restlessness and discomfort and bruised body pain. The glands—one or both—swell so much that the face looks deformed. (Rummy did look rummier than ever before according to the reliable evidence of some eye-witnesses. The poor boy!) There is pain and difficulty in moving the jaws. About the 4th day, in mild cases, the swelling and inflammation reach their height (that must have been Rummy's dinner night at the Willingdon) and by about the 8th or 10th day all traces of the complaint disappear. In Mumps the glands rarely suppurate. The allopaths say that this disease is caused by a virus. They have not christened the virus yet and they have no treatment for the disease beyond rest in bed till the enlargement of the glands subsides. According to the allopathic science it is clear that Rummy Sood ought to have been in bed instead of making an innocent attempt to pass the buck to others.

Now, quite a few allopathic scientists think that people don't die from Mumps. But they can if the attack is neglected. For instance, the most common complication of Mumps is Orchitis, the inflammation of the testicles. This is a very painful affliction which appears in adult males five or seven days after the attack. This again might lead to permanent sterility and even impotence. See what good, old Rummy escaped. May the Lord be praised!

Other complications, according to the allopaths, are oophoritis (inflammation of the ovary) and mastitis (inflammation of the breast) in the female (Fortunately Rummy was never in this danger), involvement of the nervous system and pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas). Then there can be abdominal pain and severe vomiting, though Rummy is not reported to have thrown up these symptoms seeing J. C. Jain's usually excellent dinner. Rummy is gracious and accommodating that way. He never disagrees. He connives if necessary.

But the allopaths insist upon telling us that there are sometimes more serious complications like meningo-encephalitis (inflammation of the brain and its membranes), otitis media (inflammation of the middle ear), labyrinthitis (inflammation of the aural labyrinth), neuritis of the 2nd, 8th and 3rd cranial nerves and nerve deafness. You see what our friend Rummy escaped according to the allopaths! And his charming wife, Kamini Kaushal, did not even realize what a narrow escape good, old Rummy had from all these various expressions of 'allopathitis'. Had she known it, she would have burnt a million candles in all the Christian churches of India for Rummy's providential escape. For, allopathy being essentially a Christian science needs Christian thanksgiving. Kamini's Rummy is at any time worth two-million candles without even the festival of our Lady of the Mount being in session.

With mumps having serious complications which rise from the testicles right up to the human brain, like the allopaths, the homoeopaths cannot tell the patient that they have no medicines to cure this infectious disease and that the patient should merely rest in bed, look at the ceiling and pray for relief.

In fact homoeopathy has some marvellous preventive and curative remedies which make Mumps only a fiction of terror. And these remedies do not need an expert to administer them. Any layman can use them safely as any layman can diagnose Mumps.

THE DRUG PICTURES

I give below nine remedies which cover almost all the stages and types of Mumps and will not only cure the disease but prevent its numerous complications:

Aconite Nap 3x: For the **very early feverish** stage with **restlessness** and anxiety. Give 4 pills every 3 hours. Just three doses! If the trouble is not checked go to the next remedy.

Pilocarpine Muriaticum 3x: This is Dr. Burnett's famous remedy. **It surpasses all the rest.** It acts very **quickly.** I have done over 30 cases in recent times without a single failure. It **takes away pain.** It is specially meant for the **parotid gland.** It has **excessive perspiration** from all parts of the body and a **rapid** swelling of the salivary gland. It prevents the spread of the disease to the testicles or the mammae. It makes the mumps painless. Dose: 4 pills every 4 hours till relief is obtained. Then lessen the doses.

Parotidinum 30: This is a nosode. It is a prophylactic against infection. Given three times a day to those directly exposed to the disease, it will effectively prevent infection. In the

Vice has its own paraphernalia—a bottle, a cigarette, a glass, a stick, a silk kerchief etc. These are symbols which the singing girl readily understands. They are silent words of her own profession. Dev Anand plays the devil in "Kala Pani", a social theme produced by Navketan.

disease itself give a dose every four hours. It is very useful in complications like orchitis and cerebral inflammations. This remedy can be given singly or alternated if necessary with any other remedy chosen on particular symptoms by giving Parotidinum on one day and the other remedy the next day. Dose: 4 pills every 4 hours.

Belladonna 3x: **Right** parotid inflamed (note the side). **Red** swelling and **violent shooting** pain—**flying, lancinating** pain, **red** face, sensitive to cold. Swelling **suddenly** disappears and **cerebral symptoms** ensue. This remedy can be alternated with Parotidinum, if necessary.
Dose: 4 pills every 3 hours.

Mercurius Iodatus Flav. 30: **Right** parotid swollen (It is again **Right**) **offensive** salivation, **foul** tongue, **offensive** sweat, jaws **stiff,** much pain. All symptoms **worse in the night.** The swelling is **pale** and not red like Belladonna. This remedy has a specific action on the **salivary glands.** There is slight fever. It is useful in the later stages when suppuration is threatened. This remedy can be alternated every two hours with Belladonna if necessary.
Dose: 4 pills every 4 hours.

Rhus Tox 12: **Left** side mumps. This is our best remedy in secondary parotitis. Parotid and submaxillary glands **dark, red, highly inflamed** and enlarged. Pains while swallowing, **aching** in the limbs, **restlessness, worse** night, **worse** cold, **worse** cold winds. Tendency to typhoid conditions. Dose: 4 pills every 3 hours. Reduce doses as condition improves.

Lachesis 30: Another left parotid remedy. **Enormous** swelling; **purplish** colour; **sensitive to least** touch—**least** possible pressure; **severe** pain; can hardly swallow; shrinks when approached. Throat sore. Face red and swollen. Eyes **glassy** and wild. The mouth is **not** offensive **nor** is the tongue dirty. But there is horrible tension. **Worse after sleep.** Dose: 4 pills every 6 hours. Immediately the condition improves skip a dose. Don't overdose with this medicine.

Phytolacca 3: Remember **stony** hardness. Parotid glands inflamed with stony hardness. Inflammation of sub-maxillary glands. Pain **shoots** into **ear** when swallowing. **Worse** cold and wet. Mammae **hard** and **very sensitive.** Painful induration of testicles. **Pain shooting along perineum to penis. Better** warm, dry weather and rest. Dose: 4 pills every 4 hours.

Pulsatilla 3: Especially useful in **orchitis** and **mammary** complications. Disease threatening to spread to **breasts** and **testicles. Enormously** swollen testicles. Mouth **dry. Thirstless. Peevish. Chilly.** Symptoms **ever-changing—flitting** about. Tongue **thickly** coated. Pain **worse** in the **evening** and **after lying** down. Dose: 4 pills every 3 hours.

The above remedies will cover all possible complications right from the preliminary attack to the cure leaving behind no sequelae. Accessory treatment lies in **not** exposing the patient to cold or damp. No **cold** applications as they encourage the spread of the disease to other parts. Warm fomentations may do good but between the fomentations the parts must be covered with silk or flannel. **Absolute rest**—both physical and mental and **liquid** diet. No dances, no clubs, no free dinners. The usual sick-room hygiene of light, air and cleanliness.

A PREVENTIVE PLAN

As Mumps are both epidemic and contagious, preventive measures are most important, especially in schools and colleges where a single patient of mumps can easily infect the whole classroom, including the prosaic teacher. The patient is most infectious during the very early days, even before the swelling appears. The responsibility of preventing an epidemic of this disease thus largely shifts to the parents who should keep their children at home and in bed immediately they suspect an infection of mumps. It is good for their children and those of others, seeing that an infected child needs absolute rest, as an essential of his curative treatment.

A good preventive plan in an epidemic would be to give a dose of **"Parotidinum 200",** once a week—say every Sunday alternated with a dose a day, every alternate day,—say on Tuesday and Thursday—of **"Pilocarpine Muriaticum 3x".** For those directly exposed two or three doses a day may be taken of Pilocarpine.

The medicines mentioned above can be had in pills (Size No. 30) or in liquid form. Under all circumstances the drugs should be bought from reliable homoeopathic chemists. Potentized drugs are never found with allopathic chemists and sellers of patent medicines.

NO COFFEE SHOULD BE TAKEN DURING HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICATION

Those who use these remedies as a result of this article are requested to send me as detailed a report as possible of their experience explaining the circumstances under which the drugs were used and with what result. An intelligent and truthful report will help me in further research, particularly if the symptoms peculiar to the patient are closely observed and noted down. Such reports may be posted separately marked, "Personal", to me at 55, Sir Pherozesha Mehta Road, Fort, Bombay 1.

20. 1. 1958 **Baburao Patel**

ARAB BHAIBHAIS UNITE

The Arab's natural hatred for the Jew appears to have become a cementing force between the two Arab States of Egypt and Syria.

On February 1, 1958, Egypt and Syria proclaimed a "United Arab Republic" of 27 million people. President Nasser of Egypt and President Shukri el Kuwatly signed this unity document at Cairo. The Republic would have one flag, one army and one president. Other details are being worked out.

Egypt and Syria, however, don't have a common border as they are separated by Israel and Jordan. Egypt covers an area of 386,000 square miles with a population of 23,000,000 while Syria is much smaller—72,000 square miles and a population of 4 million.

We must wait and see how long this new-found love between Nasser and Kuwatly lasts. They have a common purpose in view—keeping Israel in check—and that might give them the necessary driving force.

ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION

A recent ruling by Lord Wheatley in the Edinburgh Court of Session, that a woman who bore a child as a result of artificial insemination without her husband's knowledge did not commit adultery, has set the ball rolling on the ethics of artificial insemination. For the time being, the Britishers have pushed the problem of homosexuality into the background.

The initiative for condemning artificial insemination was taken up by the Most Rev. Geoffrey Francis Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury, who said that artificial insemination was evil because the institution of marriage "is meant to give to children the security of knowing who their parents are, and to give society the same security."

Actually Dr. Fisher had taken a firm stand on this issue way back in 1945. A commission appointed by him had called it "contrary to Christian standards" and suggested legislation to make it a criminal offence.

Since 1945, Britain has had 10,000 test-tube babies and the practice seems to have spread far and wide. Evidently artificial insemination is a paying business. Who is worried about the moral side?

IMPROVING THE ITALIAN

It is a paradox of life that vice thrives best in an atmosphere of virtue. For instance, one would expect a place of pilgrimage like Banaras to be a holy spot but a visit to this ancient city quickly dispels this notion with its compelling population of priests and pimps.

Italy—the seat of the Vatican for the last five hundred and odd years and the home of the Roman Catholic religion — is strangely enough the only country in Europe where licensed brothels are still permitted. But in 1958, the brothels have begun to prick the conscience of quite a few Italian senators. The angel responsible for this change in them is Angelina Merlin, an old Socialist Senator and ex-school mistress.

For ten years Angelina has campaigned against these brothels and today her campaign is beginning to have some effect. For Italy's Chamber of Deputies passed a Bill outlawing legal prostitution by a vote of 385 to 115. Which means that very soon about 560 Government-licensed brothels will have to be disbanded.

But the gay Italian Casanovas can't be suppressed too long. The law will only drive the brothels underground. The average Italian will die without a mistress in his bed.

LABELLING BLOOD

Though royalty and noble gentry often pride themselves on their "blue blood", it is nothing but good old red blood that runs in their veins. This man-made distinction of blue and red blood has raised many an unnatural barrier between man and his fellow beings, never intended by God in His scheme of things.

The blood theory of man got a new expression in Georgia State, U.S., when a Bill requiring the racial label of a donor of human blood was introduced in the Georgia State Legislature recently. Under this Bill all human blood used in transfusions in the State will have to be labelled: "Negroid", "Caucasian", "Mongoloid", etc. It was also obligatory for doctors and nurses who administered blood to state the race of the donor.

Whatever the racial quality, a transfusion is a life-saver to the ailing person.

Once bitten, twice shy! The cleverest of women lose their first battles and often miss the second battlefield because new suspicion keeps them away from getting old wounds. Here is one who is trying to measure a man's character with the yardstick of her own bitter experience. In romance new lovers always pay for the sins of the old ones. Nargis brings plenty of emotion and suspicion to the screen in "Lajwanti", a romantic tale produced by De Lux Films.

LONG AND THE SHORT

A midget, whether male or female, is always an object of curiosity. But even midgets seem to have their own charm.

For the smallest wife in the world you must see 3 feet-2 inches Mrs. Jean Ryan of Frankston, Australia. She is 42 and is married to Peter Ryan, 43, who has a height of 5' 9".

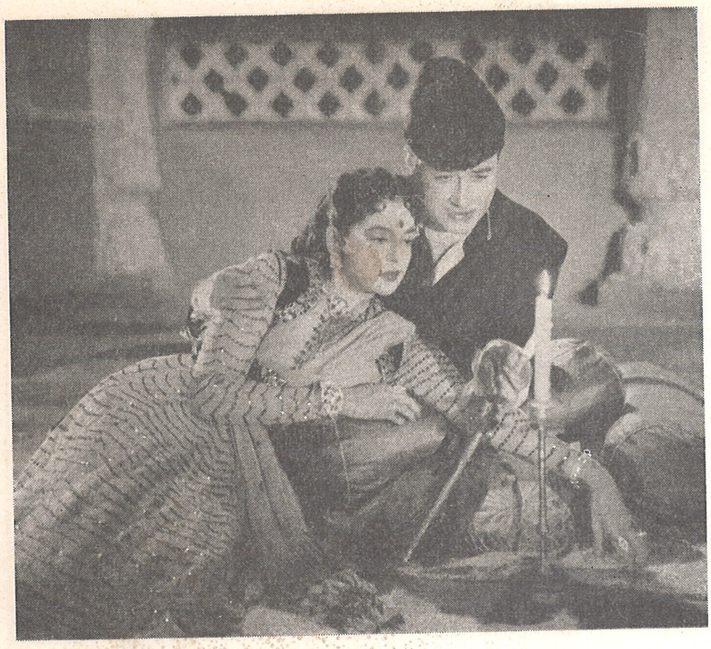
Jean has a daughter by her former marriage who is also a midget. The two are often mistaken for "little sisters". Because of her height, she uses a specially low-built refrigerator and a specially designed 16" cycle.

Together, Peter and Jean furnish a living example of the long and the short.

SEX-APPEAL IN POLICE

Italy will soon have her first all-women police force. The new force, to begin with, will have a 1000 women between the ages of 25 and 35.

The decision to enrol women was taken because the Government has now banned licensed prostitution. If the ban is to



He can see one end of the candle burning. The other one is in his arm. He will discover its burning flame only when his own wick has burnt out. That is youth, a blind season of enthusiasm. Nalini Jaywant and Dev Anand live their roles in "Kala Pani", a sensational theme produced by Kala Niketan.

work effectively, it is essential that these derelicts of society must be rehabilitated.

Anyway these women will make life exciting for the male police force. You can't stop an Italian from love-making. It is in his very blood!

"JANATA" FOR MAO

The Reds talk of rule of the proletariat but the advantages that are availed of by the top favoured few are something that the common man in the street cannot dream of in a hundred births.

Some Chinese top officials saw a luxurious train at the 1955 Leipzig Fair. Result: an order was given to an engineering firm in Goerlitz, East Germany. The coaches which are bullet-proof, have bedrooms, bathrooms, libraries, conference rooms, lounge rooms, etc. and will be used exclusively by Chairman Mao Tse Tung and his ministers and aides.

The coaches, besides, are air-conditioned and fitted with radio telephones, so that even while travelling Mao can be in touch with Peking. The luxury train in short has comfort, security and full communication facilities.

This is probably Mao's idea of a Chinese "Janata" for himself —the servant of the proletariat —and his friends.

BANNING DOWRY

Following the worthy example set by the Andhra Government, the Kerala Government has also decided to ban the dowry system.

The draft Bill is awaiting the Government of India's approval. The Bill imposes a ceiling on wedding gifts. Gifts over Rs. 2000|- will be subject to a penalty while the giving or accepting of dowry will be penalized. The Bill will apply to all communities and domiciled citizens of Kerala.

The dowry system has been a curse to thousands of poor people who can't even afford two square meals let alone a costly dowry. The earlier we get rid of it the better. But the law can't do much, unless the people themselves shed the conventional dowry-complex.

WHAT IS OBSCENE?

Defining the word 'obscene' is a difficult task even for the trained judge. To a prude like Morarji Desai, even a mere suggestion of sex would be obscene while to the unconventional-minded it would take a lot to convince that it is obscene. In fact, obscenity exists in the mind of the beholder by virtue of what it suggests to him. When James Joyce's "Ulysses" was first published in 1918, the book was immediately banned on grounds of obscenity. In 1933, however, Federal District Judge John Munroe Woolsey gave a ruling that "Ulysses" was not "dirt for dirt's sake" but a work of art.

Recently the Kinsey Institute had ordered some written pictorial material from abroad for its sex research. The U.S. Government wanted this material to be destroyed because it was obscene.

But Federal District Judge Edmund L. Palmieri of New York held that obscenity must be judged in the context of the "prurient interest" of the average person. The imported material was of a scientific nature and not sexual.

JUVENILE 'DEVILS'

With a quarter of Calcutta's population clinging to the slums, a high incidence in crime, particularly juvenile crime, should not come as a surprise to us.

According to figures compiled by the Calcutta police, there was an increase in juvenile crime during 1957. In 1957, 2044 youngsters were brought before the Juvenile Courts as against 1819 of 1956. The number of delinquents convicted during the last four years were 1774 in 1957, 1549 in 1956, 2192 in 1955, 2153 in 1954.

Most of the young criminals were from the slum areas. Poverty and illiteracy seem to keep these young 'devils' busy.

CROWDED WITH SLUMS

In a "Welfare" State, the least a citizen expects are three requisites—food, clothing and shelter. But even after ten years of freedom, the housing problem in India is more acute than ever.

Pandit Nehru, who can't stand the sight of slums, had once roared "Basti Jalado". Recently he appointed the Sen Committee to go into the question of slum clearance. And the picture drawn by this Committee is far from pleasing.

The slum-dwellers in the different cities of India will need at least a million houses if they are to be given alternate accommodation. The percentage of people living in slums in cities and towns varies between 7 and 60. Urban slum dwellings are estimated at 20%.

In Bombay city alone there are about 140 slum areas to accommodate half the city's population. One fourth of Calcutta's inhabitants live in bustees which occupy 1|8 of the city's living space. Kanpur, another industrial city, has 60% of its population living in slums while Delhi and Ahmedabad are a shade better with 20% of their population pushed into the slum areas.

We have money for big multi-purpose projects like the Bhakra Nangal so that we can show our spectacular progress to the foreign dignitaries who visit India. But we can't find enough money to give a roof to the suffering poor.

COWARDLY DESERTERS

Deserting wives is getting more and more common these days in America. Divorce is, of course, the easiest way out for frayed tempers but evidently there are quite a few thousands who just believe in walking out of their bedrooms, never to return!

According to the U.S. National Desertion Bureau, 100,000 men leave their wives every year without going through any legal formalities. But American women are rarely left in the lurch. Hard-working and thoroughly independent, these women quickly take up jobs. One third of America's full-time workers are women and they earn 42,000,000,000 dollars annually.

In India the traditional Hindu wife sticks so stubbornly like a leech to her husband, that the man rarely gets a chance to stage the act of desertion!

CHEAP BARGAINS

In many orthodox Indian homes marriages are always fixed by astrologers who read the compatibility of the respective horoscopes of the bride and the bridegroom. But in exciting France, life is not so prosaic and old-fashioned.

There are quite a few matrimonial agencies that do a flourishing business in match-making, one of the popular ones being run by 36-year-old Madam Lino Adam at No. 10, Rue des Pyramides in Paris.

It is estimated that 5% of the couples who marry each other in France were originally introduced through a matrimonial agency. The agencies usually charge a flat fee of 15.000 francs (about Rs. 200) to their clients which includes several introductions to prospective partners till a wedding is in sight. Many of the clients are in their early twenties, the required minimum age being 21. Pairing is done by the agency after going through their backgrounds, educational qualifications, religions, etc.

Well, if you can get a wife or a husband in 15000 francs, the effort is certainly worthwhile.

LUCKY GERMANS

In the budget framed by Franz Etzel, Finance Minister of West Germany, income tax reliefs valued at £25,000,000 have been given to the Germans. This relief will make a total 15,000,000 wage earners completely free from paying direct tax.

Another will be that the incomes of husbands and wives will be added together and divided by two and each half taxed individually.

Germans are luckier than us in this respect.

In India more and more taxes are being squeezed out from the people under the pompous "Welfare" label. But the taxpayers' money usually goes down the drain in a hundred different scandals of the Government.

CASUALTIES OF WINE

The French habit of drinking wine at any time and all times is creating more hazards for motorists in France. In 1956 12,000 deaths were reported from road accidents, while the injured numbered 200,000.

That is why the French Government is contemplating strict measures for drivers. The measures already approved are prison sentences ranging from a month to a year and fines ranging from 50,000 francs to 500,000 francs for driving while under the influence of alcohol.

Wine seems to give some of the French drivers an unnecessary bravado. A strict law is not enough. It must be applied ruthlessly.

FERTILE WOMEN

The Sudanese women seem to possess unusual fertility for according to a recent census in Sudan, a Sudanese baby is born every minute. The Sudanese population is said to be increasing at the rate of 3.3% a year.

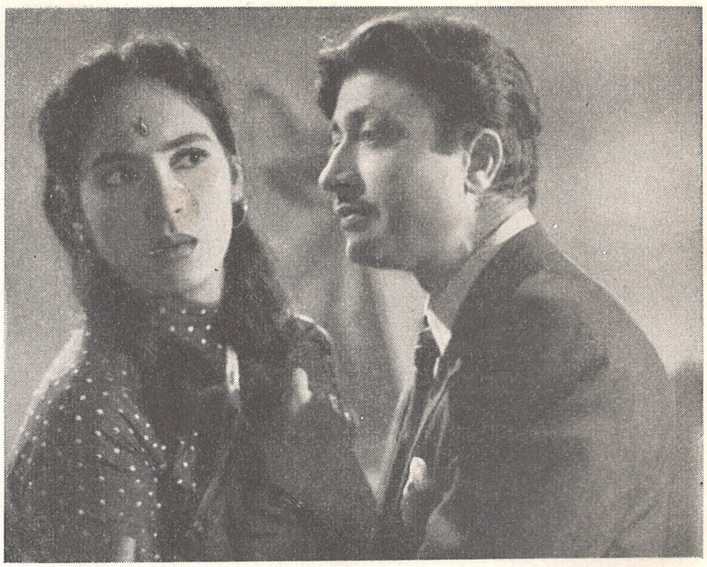
In another 20 years the population of Sudan is likely to be 20,500,000, double the present total.

PLANTS LOVE MUSIC

Was it not the great English poet Pope who said: "Music the fiercest grief can charm, And Fate's severest rage disarm; Music can soften pain to ease, And make despair and madness please:" He must have been a great lover of music, as are most human beings.

But the plant kingdom also is known to be susceptible to music. In their own quiet way they appreciate the tender notes of a violin or the rich resonance of a veena or the plaintive haunt of nadaswaram. And they respond to this music by growing faster and becoming healthier.

Experiments in this direction have been conducted by Dr. T. C. N. Singh, Professor of Botany, Annamalai University, since 1950. Dr. Singh found that whenever music was played, it accelerated the streaming movement of protoplasm. Now at Shiyali there is a six-acre experimental field and a six-acre controlled field. Paddy, tobacco and some flowering plants respond to instrumental music. They also like female voices because of the high frequency waves. Male voices don't appeal to them very much.



A Kapoor always makes a girl turn away. His "camphor" hurts the sensitive nostrils of Nutan. But Kamal Kapoor won't stop in "Aakhri Dao", a sensational thriller produced by Movie Stars.

MAN-MADE SUN

For the first time in atomic history, Harwell atomic scientists demonstrated in the laboratory temperatures as high as 5,000,000 degrees centigrade with the help of a dough nut shaped machine called 'Zeta' (short for zero-energy thermo-nuclear assembly).

One would not be wrong in calling the 'Zeta' a man-made sun. Temperatures are created by atomic fusion of deuterium —heavy hydrogen gas. There is plenty of hydrogen in nature, the hydrogen of sea water being able to supply the world's energy requirements for all time.

At the moment the high power resulting from atomic fusion may not be put to practical use but the day is not far off when limitless power may be made available at cheap cost by fusing hydrogen atoms from sea water.

MORE AUTOMOBILES

The industrial and economic recovery of a war-shattered West Germany is considered by many to be a miracle of modern times. While the world keeps looking and wondering at the infinite capacity of the Germans to turn out one product after another with amazing speed, the country is progressing steadily in every direction.

Auto-manufacturers of West Germany exported 584,166 cars and commercial models in 1957, an increase of 205% over the 1956 total. The 1958 figure is expected to be even higher than the 1957 one.

THE MISSING LINK?

A sensational discovery of the remains of a man who walked upright and possessed a more-highly developed brain than the contemporary apeman was made at the famous Sterk-

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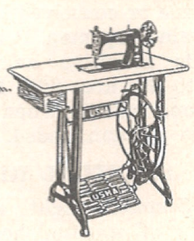

Agents : M/s. Bombay Premier Trading Co., Bombay.

The girl is trying to play the 'sitar' while the man is trying to play on the strings of her heart. It is the ancient game which Papa Adam played with Mama Eve with such disastrous effect on the world's population. Anoop Kumar and Shubha Khote make a new romantic team in "Naach Ghar", a social tale produced by Kwality Pictures.

fontein caves, 27 miles from Johannesburg, by three scientists, Dr. J. Robinson, Dr. C. Kbrain, and Mr. R. K. Mason.

Anthropologists believe that this man was probably the ancestor of modern man and not the apeman who was looked upon till now as the direct ancestor of humanity.

To support this new theory the anthropologists have found far-from primitive tools which could not possibly have been made or conceived by the small-brained apeman. It is likely that this primitive ancestor moved into this area with his advanced stone culture when the era of the apeman ended.

SPIRITUAL HEALING

Sceptics might scoff at the idea of spiritual healing but in case of 64-year-old Harry Edwards, the art of spiritual healing he confesses "is a God-given gift".

In spite of the British Medical Association discounting spiritual healing, over 200 doctors went for advice to Harry last year and benefited too.

At the "Spiritual Healing Sanctuary" run by Harry Edwards in Surrey, there is a constant stream of ailing patients. Harry has a simple explanation for his talent. Says he: "We call in the spiritual help which radiates from God through the spirits of people who have passed over. We form the link."

Harry has initiated a few into this art. Reverend Alex Homes developed this healing gift when he came to Harry for instruction and now Reverend Homes has gone on a similar mission to Ontario, Canada.

CHAMPION OF MERCY-KILLING

Have we a right to extinguish the spark of human life just because some doctors want to alleviate the suffering of a human being attacked by an incurable disease by resorting to euthanasia—the old Greek word for mercy killing?

Legally, euthanasia is considered as murder even when it is done by the doctors at the instance of the suffering patient. In spite of the majority of people being against euthanasia there does exist a Euthanasia Society of America which was founded in 1938 by Dr. Charles Francis Potter.

Over 200 New York State doctors are in favour of legislation for euthanasia. A Bill has been prepared by the Society for this purpose but three times it has been thrown out by the New York State legislature. But Dr. Charles Potter hasn't given up hopes yet. Said Potter: "No jury has ever rendered a verdict of "Guilty of Murder" in a clear-cut case of euthanasia, nor will one."

PLUGGING THE HOLE

At London's Guys Hospital, Sir Russell Brock and his team of twelve surgeons, performed a rare operation on 36-year-old Edward Teller in which his heart was taken out, "repaired" and replaced.

Teller was suffering from a hole in the heart as a result of which his arteries had started closing up. He was put in a deep freeze for seven hours and then operated upon.

The best part of the operation is that Teller is alive today to tell the story. Our film heroes are even more skilled. They often perform such "repairing" operations on their favourite heroines without resorting to the surgeon's knife.

MULTISIDED DRUG

Chlorothiazide, a new drug, described as one of the most effective diuretics, has now been found to have other uses. Two Boston physicians noted that the diuretic has also an "amazing blood pressure lowering effect".

A team of New York doctors headed by Dr. John H. Laragh reported that chlorothiazide worked against fluid retention caused by heart failure, cirrhosis of liver, etc., when all other measures had failed.

Some other doctors found it useful in the prevention and treatment of toxemia in pregnancy. The drug has the least harmful side effects.

INDUCING CELL-MUTATION

For the first time 36-year-old Shiman Chang, a Chinese Assistant professor of microbiology at the Harvard University Health Centre, achieved a deliberate man-made mutation of a human cell.

Professor Chang used two types of living human cells, one from the mucous membrane of the eye and the other from the uterine cancer of a dead woman. He grew some of the cells in a glucose-free culture though glucose is considered to be vital to human cells. These cells then developed new characters which enabled them to convert their food to glucose. After some more weeks these new cells began to reproduce with increasing frequency. They developed new characters whereby they could survive and multiply on food which their mother cells cculdn't use.

This man-made mutation in a human cell is considered to be a great step in the research of cancer.

MULTIPURPOSE VACCINE

Drs. William J. Mogabgab and William Pelon of Tulane University announced a multipurpose vaccine that would give protection against colds, influenza and polio.

The discovery was made when they grew the influenza virus in monkey kidney tissue cultures. The same method has been used in making polio vaccine.

It is too early to comment on the efficacy of the multi-purpose vaccine.

SUN MAKES THEM SWOON

Two young girls, aged 7 and 11, have accidentally discovered that an epileptic fit can be brought on by flicking their fingers in front of their eyes when facing bright sunlight. What is more, they enjoyed themselves in bringing on the fit. Psychiatrists are puzzled at this strange phenomenon and have tried

drugs, psychotherapy, etc., on them but without any effect. Even tinted glasses can't stop them from getting the fit when they come out in sunlight.

In the laboratory scientists have induced artificial fits by making the subject stare at a light which is flashed on and off at a high speed.

Evidently these girls have very sensitive nerves that make the sunlight play havoc with their brains.

In the film industry they don't need sunshine for swooning. A dark room is just as effective.

MALE SLEEPING BEAUTY

In the popular French nursery tale by Charles Perrault we had come across the princess who had to sleep a hundred years owing to some magical spell before she was woken up from her deep slumber by a young prince. This prince eventually married "the sleeping beauty".

But Paul Sowa, a 19-year-old boy of Chicago, has been sleeping since January 20, 1944, that is for a little over 14 years. Paul is under no spell. He is a victim of encephalitis and though he has been sleeping, his growth is normal. His parents and his 15-year-old sister look after him as he has to be given liquid nourishment.

Paul's disease is said to be incurable but Paul still breathes and as long as there is breath there is hope—especially in the heart of a fond mother.

PROFITS FROM DUMB

The doctor's profession the world over is the most paying one, particularly in the U.S. These days side by side with doctors, veterinary surgeons in some of the important cities like New York and Los Angeles, are making thousands of dollars by treating animals.

In the last twenty years the number of veterinary surgeons in U.S. has nearly doubled. Most of them (85%) work on livestock but quite a few who have specialized in small animals and birds take away 50% of the vets' annual earnings (about 330 million dollars).

Dr. Norman Gale, a specialist in snakes, lizards, tortoises, etc., recently performed a Caesarean on two snakes and saved their babies. Dr. McBride treats dogs for prostratis mostly by castration, performs mammectomies on female dogs, and even cataract operations on some dogs. Some aged dogs have their eyes fitted with plastic contact lens.

In a world of men it is good consolation to feel that the poor dumb animals are after all getting some much-needed attention. If a man needs a doctor, an animal needs him all the more.

HUMAN MONEY BOX

A mental patient in a Durham hospital turned his stomach into a "human money box" and began to swallow his weekly pocket money, 2sh 6d, regularly.

Gradually owing to the accumulation of coins, he lost his appetite. When the surgeons operated on him they took out 424 coins and 27 pieces of wire from his stomach.

The coins consisted of 366 half-pennies, 26 six pences, 17 three-penny pieces, 11 pennies and four shillings. These coins are now Crown property and will not be returned to the man.

Always keep a Capstan handy

Yes, but don't take this too literally ! For one thing, you'll need a lot of space, and then there may be objections from various quarters.

Don't tell us that according to the dictionary a capstan is *'an upright machine turned by spokes so as to wind upon it a cable which draws something, generally the anchor on board ship'*, because we know that.

The fact is that people know the Capstan cigarette much better than the 'upright machine.' They always keep a Capstan handy and they know exactly what they are doing !

"Better buy Capstan they're blended better"

CAP/330A

They are going marketing. The newly-weds want to run a home just as their parents did. They will, ofcourse, buy all tinned foods, cook nothing but make a mess opening the tins. And they will get hurt and swear at each other and then go to bed without food. And then on empty stomachs they will make up with a kiss, only to eat in a restaurant next morning. Dev Anand and Mala Sinha keep the home fires burning in "Love Marriage", an exciting love tale produced by Subodh Mukerji.

The man seems to be a natural hoarder.

BOMB MADNESS

A Soviet psychiatrist says that there is a kind of madness that afflicts some airmen who make regular flights in aircraft, carrying atom or hydrogen bombs. The mental disorder comes on apparently without any reason but can be actually traced to the consciousness of the airmen who know that the slightest error committed by a single man can lead to the extermination of thousands of human lives.

The atom or the hydrogen bomb evidently acts as a trigger and upsets the mental balance of a man. But the madness that comes with Communism is, we think, even more dangerous. It kills the man in a man.

RESURRECTING HUMAN LIVES

The mystery of life and death has defied scientists for ages. Man is supposed to consist of a body and a soul described by some one as "the vital spark of heavenly flame". It is this 'vital spark' created by God that gives life to a man.

Now Russian scientists want to take the place of God and have begun experiments on resurrecting human life at the medical biological branch of the Soviet Academy of Medical Sciences at Suchumi, on the Black Sea.

So far they claim that they have been able to bring back dogs to life one hour after the animals' hearts stopped beating. In case of monkeys they were revived within 20 minutes after they were clinically dead. Human beings had been revived for five to six minutes after "clinical death"—when breathing and heartbeats had stopped. They needed to be put under artificial refrigeration for this purpose.

'EXPLORER' EXPLORING

The U.S. recovered a bit of its hurt pride when on January 31, 1958, it launched its first earth satellite successfully from Cape Canaveral, Florida, with the help of the U.S. Army's Jupiter-C rocket.

The satellite called the "Explorer" is a pencil-like tube, 80 inches long and six inches in diameter. Having a speed of 18,000 to 19,400 miles, the Explorer is able to circle the globe in about 123 minutes. It is said to have a life of 2½ to 10 years.

It was on October 4, 1957, Russia had stolen the thunder from the rest of the world with its remarkable Sputnik I. Anyway the American scientists have now pulled themselves up and come out with the Explorer.

23-MINUTE SUPERSONIC RECORD

An English Electric jet fighter recently created a new record in supersonic flight. Flying at a height of 30,000 feet, the jet fighter flew faster than the speed of sound for 23 consecutive minutes.

Many fighters had performed supersonic flights in the past but they merely forced their way through the sound barrier and fell back again. In the case of the electric jet fighter, the supersonic flight was maintained for 23 minutes.

FLUORESCENT LIGHTING

Lighting up Government buildings on Republic Day and Independence Day seems to have given the necessary incentive to the production of fluorescent tubes in India. It has now reached the one million mark.

The production, which was undertaken during the period of the first Five-Year Plan in 1952, began with 73,000 tubes. In 1954 it increased to 214,000 and in 1955 to 721,000. In 1956 it rose again to 881,000 with a maximum of 1,000,000 in 1957.

We can't say the same in the production of foodgrains. Food is perhaps harder to grow than fluorescent tubes!

A COSTLY BRIDGE

The longest cantilever type of bridge has been nearly completed near the New Orleans across the long, winding River Mississippi.

Sixty-eight million dollars have already gone into the making of the new Mississippi River Bridge. The Bridge is more than two miles long with 9,100 feet of approaches.

America has never lacked in bridges. It has hundreds of them and this one will help in relieving the congestion of traffic in busy New Orleans.

RADIOACTIVE MILK

The scourge of humanity seems to be the atom and the hydrogen bomb. While the bombs themselves are capable of wiping off a whole world of humanity, the radioactivity let loose in the air through nuclear tests of the Big Powers is not less frightening.

In fact, a recent survey conducted by the West German milk verification office in Kiel has revealed the presence of radioactive elements in German milk, the elements having doubled from 1956 to 1957.

Dr. Knoop, the head of the institute, warned that the future was going to be worse even without the creation of new sources of radioactivity because radiations caused by recent tests had not yet passed from the atmosphere to the biosphere. The roots of plants absorbed radioactive particles.

MORE SPEED

Man's knowledge is so imperfect that what seems like an impossibility in one generation soon becomes a reality in the next. When the aeroplane was in its infancy, a transcontinental air flight was a dream wrapped in the clouds of ignorance. Today aeroplanes have compressed the large world into a much smaller one.

Dr. Eugen Saenger, the famous German scientist who worked on a secret Hitler weapon, a super "V.V.V. 2" rocket, has some startling scientific predictions to make for us. Less than two years from now planes will fly at 3600 miles per hour.

After another five years rocket planes will travel at about 6000 miles per hour while unmanned missiles will attain ten times that speed.

USING SOLAR ENERGY

Soviet scientists have developed a new device for converting solar energy into electric power.

The device is a battery made of a pure silicon plate with attached electrodes. 8 to 10% of the solar energy it receives is converted into electric power and can feed a radio receiver or other kinds of measuring instruments.

ETERNAL DAYLIGHT

British scientists have proved recently that the rate of the earth spinning on its own axis is gradually slowing down. They fear that one day it will come to a dead stop and then like the moon will remain showing one side of its face to the glowing sun.

Luckily, we living on earth today, need not be perturbed over the shape of things to come. According to Dr. Louis Essen of the National Physical Laboratory, this catastrophe will come to pass in about 16,078,000,000 years from now. Dr. Essen took 2½ years to work out this intricate mathematical problem.

GAS FROM COWDUNG

At the Planning Research and Action Institute, Lucknow, Indian scientists are busy experimenting with a gas produced from cowdung. This gas is likely to replace petrol in cars, tractors and automobiles, if these experiments prove successful.

And then profiteers will start a black-marketing business in cowdung.

CONSCIENCE-KEEPER

Some time ago Soviet Russia had announced the installation of the world's most accurate atomic clock in Moscow. Now comes news that the British Horological Institute, now in its centenary year, has begun operating an even better atomic clock at the National Physical Laboratory in Teddington.

So accurate is this atomic clock that it will lose only one second in 300 years. The Big Ben, considered a wonder in its day, never gains or loses more than one second a day. The atomic clock can thus become the most accurate conscience-keeper of a nation.

Centuries ago
an Indian monk
discovered
the goodness of TEA
In 1955, a body of scientific experts in the U.S.A.—the Biological Sciences Foundation—recorded that tea helped to relieve fatigue.
The ability of tea to drive tiredness away is said to have been discovered centuries ago by an Indian monk—Daruma—who left India sometime in 520 A.D. to preach Buddhism in China and Japan.
Today, in millions of homes tea has become not only part of the daily drinking habit of the family; but a symbol of hospitality. Over a cup of tea you can discuss anything and forget your worries.
I am Tea – the symbol of friendship
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FINDING A WAY OUT?

Bombay, February 3.

With the spread of trade unionism, employees are no more the docile creatures that they were once. Even the employees of the film industry have now become conscious of their rights and privileges.

As if to emphasize this new consciousness, the Federation of Western India Cine Employees held its first two-day convention at Shivaji Park in Bombay under the presidentship of Krishna Gopal. The inauguration ceremony, of course, had to be done by a white-capped Congress minister, Mr. Shantilal Shah, Bombay's Minister for Labour and Law.

Shantilal Shah referred to the recent inquiry made by the Government of India through the Deputy Commissioner of Labour, Bombay, in the Bombay State, about the working conditions of film labour and said that legislation to improve the majority of the present conditions could best be done only by the Union Government though a few lesser problems could be handled by the State Government. Striking a friendly and sympathetic attitude, Shantilal continued: "I want to understand your problems. When your representatives meet me, they can give me an idea of what your difficulties and hardships are. It is only then that we can try to find a way out."

The Federation adopted nine resolutions, one of them being a demand for extension of benefits of the Minimum Wages Act and the Provident Fund Act to the film industry, while the other was a demand for a "full-fledged commission for inquiring and making recommendations on the conditions of employment in the industry."

Let us hope Shantilal keeps his word and does help to better the lot of cine employees. For the usual technique is that after the inauguration, most of the ministers' words evaporate into thin air leaving the promised benefits in the lap of a distant future.

READYMADE 'PAPA'

Los Angeles, February 3.

Film actress Rita Hayworth, 39, completed the pentagonal revolution of marriage by marrying 42-year-old Producer James Hill at a quiet ceremony in her beautiful home at Beverly Hills. Only a few relatives and eight guests attended the wedding with her two daughters from her earlier two husbands, acting as the flower girls.

After uttering the marriage vow, Rita in a mood of frankness told reporters: "This is definitely my last fling into matrimony. The time has come when my children mean more to me than anything else. That's why a father, especially a wonderful man like James is essential."

Rita has had an impressive calendar of husbands. Here they are: Edward Judson (1937-42), Orson Welles (1943-48), Aly Khan (1949-51) and Dick Haymes (1952-54).

For Producer James, however, this was his first marriage. Since Rita thinks that "a father like James is essential", she has now found a 'Papa' for her kids. But where did a chronic bachelor like James learn the difficult art of fathering children?

CASE AGAINST VYJAYANTIMALA

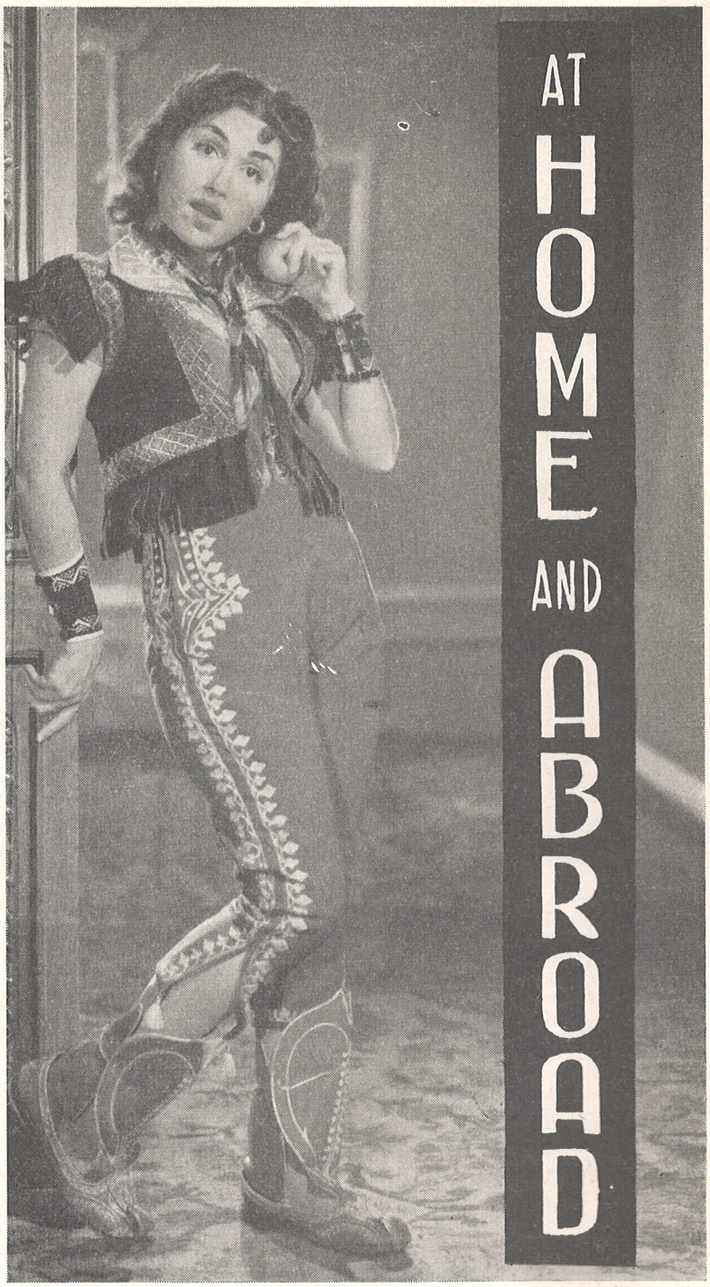
Bombay, February 6.

Mr. Justice Shelat at the Bombay High Court passed no order on a notice of motion taken out by the Starlite Agency and Sunderji Lalji against film actress Vyjayantimala, her father M. D. Raman, her maternal grandmother Yadugiri Devi, and Yeggammal, a relative, for specific performance of an agency agreement and for an injunction restraining the film actress from committing breach of contract. His Lordship ordered the hearing of the suit to be fixed for April 15, 1958.

The Starlite Agency was a partnership firm consisting of Sunderji Lalji and the four defendants. The plaintiffs stated that by an agreement dated October 27, 1954, Vyjayantimala appointed the Agency as her business managers and commission agents for negotiating and bringing about contracts with different film producers, etc. The plaintiffs were to receive a commission of 30% of the gross amount earned by the actress every year for the services rendered by the Agency for a period of five years. It was also provided that during this time Vyjayantimala should not enter into any contracts by herself and without previous written permission from the plaintiffs.

The plaintiffs alleged that Vyjayantimala committed breaches of the agreement by entering into contracts by herself with different film producers without the consent of the plaintiffs and she herself kept all the moneys realized by her from those contracts.

The defendants said that the Agency had never commenced



Women seem to have been in pants for a long time if we are to believe this producer. Here is one in a cowboy kit and right in the days of Sinbad. Well, men have dressed women differently through ages though their aim has been single. One more change should not hurt. Here is Purnima showing how small an apple can be in comparison in "Son of Sinbad", a thrilling tale directed by Nanabhai Bhatt for Neolite Films.

Now, how can you face such a sparkling picture of youth and yet not complain of the palpitation of your heart? As it is, with taxation and the socialistic pattern of society, life has become a dangerous existence and such a lightning suddenly appearing on the horizon is bound to completely stagger a man. But motion picture producers don't believe even in little mercies. Well, let us face our destiny by seeing Nutan in "Aakhri Dao", produced by Movie Stars and let us pray it doesn't become our last game.

any business nor had it rendered any services to Vyjayantimala under the agreement.

YEARLY LABOUR

New Delhi, January 20.

The Sangeet Natak Akadami gave the following awards for the year 1957-58:—

Hindustani music (vocal) Shri Ganesh R. Behrebua, (instrumental) Yusuf Ali Khan, sitarist; Karnatic music (vocal Chembai Vaidyanatha Bhagavathar; (instrumental - gottuvadhyam) Budalur Krishnamurthi Sastri; Dance (Manipuri) Guru Atamba Singh; (Kathakali) T. K. Chandu Panikkar.

Drama (playwriting) B. V. Warerkar; (acting) Ahindra Chowdhury; Film (music direction) Sachin Dev Burman; (acting) Shrimati Durgabai Khote.

Shrimati Anjanibai Malpekar, a well-known singer in her time, was unanimously elected fellow of the Akadami.

These awards were instituted by the Akadami in 1952 and since then 35 artistes have received them. The awards, consisting of a scroll signed by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, a gold chain bracelet and a shawl or angavastram, will be presented to the artistes in the last week of March.

Nobody knows why the Akadami goes through this painful yearly labour of award-giving when there are the more glamourous Padma Bhushans and Padma Shris, instituted by the Government of India, to decorate, whom they consider to be, worthy artistes?

AN ITALIAN PUZZLE

Rome, January 28.

Italian director Roberto Rossellini, now separated from his actress-wife Ingrid Bergman, is reported to have asked a Rome court to annul his marriage to her on the ground that at the time of marriage she was still married to Swedish surgeon, Dr. Peter Lindstorm.

Ingrid, who had retained her Swedish nationality, had obtained her divorce from Dr. Lindstorm in Mexico. Before remarrying Roberto Rossellini, she should have had the Mexican court's ruling ratified by a ruling from a Swedish court. This had never been done and now Roberto has taken the thin end of the wedge to prove that Ingrid was legally married to Lindstorm when she was Mrs. Rossellini.

The trouble with Italian marriage laws is that divorce is not granted under the Italian law. And annulments are granted under seven specific reasons.

What does Roberto care now, so long as the main spoke to his ever-revolving wheel is removed? Ingrid has to make way for more Sonalis quickly otherwise we are likely to have a harvest of babies out of wedlock.

MOONSTRUCK BELINDA?

Rome, February 1.

It is not only in films that we come across dramatic incidents. Real life is often more dramatic and has its own versions, sometimes tame, sometimes tragic, of Romeo and Juliet — the Shakespearean pair of lovers who embraced death to prove their love.

British starlet Belinda Lee, 22, recently separated from her 36-year-old photographer husband Cornell Lucas, swallowed one night an overdose of sleeping tablets but luckily was saved in time. The separated husband flew to Belinda's bedside on hearing the news.

A few hours later, the 38-year-old Italian Prince Filippo Orsini was also admitted in another Rome hospital, the complaint being an overdose of sleeping tablets and bleeding wrists. He was also saved from an untimely death.

The worried wife of the Prince, Franca Orsini, blamed Belinda for "misinterpreting Orsini's friendship and exaggerating it into romantic love like a film." Franca was prepared to forgive her husband if he gave up seeing Belinda in future.

As a result of this scandal, Orsini may "abdicate" his honorary Vatican post as Prince Assistant to the Pontifical Throne.

STATEMENT AS REQUIRED UNDER RULE 8 OF THE REGISTRATION OF NEWSPAPERS (CENTRAL) RULES 1956.

1.	*Place of Publication*	Bombay.
2.	*Periodicity of its Publication* ...	Monthly.
3.	*Printer's Name*	Yusufally Nensey.
	Nationality	Indian.
	Address	Sumati Publications Private Ltd. Sir P. M. Road, Fort, Bombay–1.
4.	*Publisher's Name*	Yusufally Nensey.
	Nationality	Indian.
	Address	Sumati Publications Private Ltd. Sir P. M. Road, Fort, Bombay–1.
5.	*Editor's Name*	Baburao Patel.
	Nationality	Indian.
	Address	N. S. C. I., Hornby Vellard, Bombay–18.
6.	*Names and addresses of individuals who own the newspaper and partners or shareholders holding more than one per cent of the total capital.*	Mrs. Shirin B. Patel. "Girnar" Bombay 20. Mrs. Sushila Rani Patel. "Girnar" Bombay 20. (Shareholders of Sumati Publications Private Ltd.)

I, Yusufally Nensey, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated 28th February, 1958.

(Sd) Y. Nensey,
Signature of Publisher.

We are glad that the show of love did not end in a tragedy. Tragedy befits the screen better. Belinda has since recovered her poise and resumed work in the Rank film "Nor The Moon By Night."

DEATH OF A PIONEER

Bombay, February 1.

Harischandra Sakhram Bhatvadekar, better known as Sawe Dada, and the first Indian to shoot a motion picture in Bombay way back in 1897, died recently in Bombay at the ripe old age of 90.

An enterprising pioneer, cameraman Sawe Dada ran a photographic studio in Bombay and when motion pictures were in their infancy, he erected an oper-air cinema and screened imported films. With his imported movie camera he also shot some of the early films in Bombay. In those days the films had to be sent to England for processing and printing. Dada ended as an exhibitor and in a fast-moving colourful world, soon went into the background. But his pioneering services in the cause of films will not be forgotten. May his soul rest in peace!

GINGER FOR EVER

Havana, February 9.

Sprightly red-haired actress Ginger Rogers refuses to grow old. To prove her increasing popularity she signed a 50,000 dollar contract for a night club act at the luxurious Riviera Hotel in Havana.

An optimist to the core, Ginger is of the firm opinion that in spite of Hollywood always dinning in the slump story, the movies will go on for ever.

Said Ginger: "Ever since I've been in the theatre, its always been the same in Hollywood—either feast or famine. There'll be four or five flush years and then four or five years of financial difficulties. But it will all be ironed out. It always has and it will be this time, too."

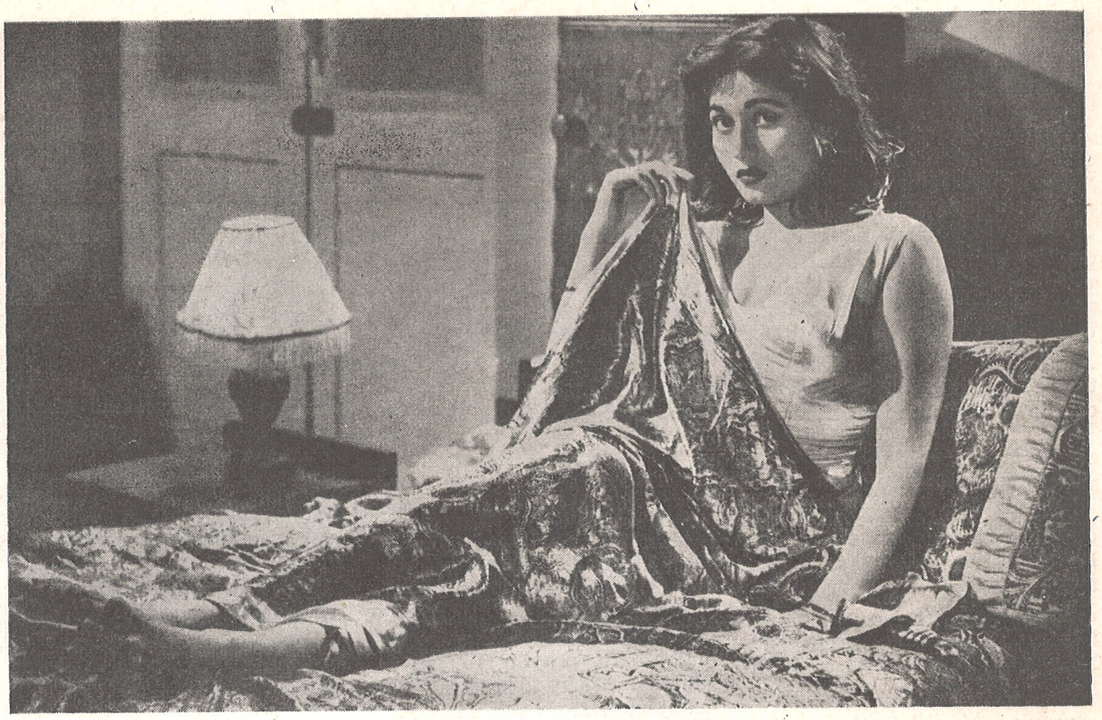
But whether movies go on or not, Ginger, with her ever-green personality, seems to go on for ever.

MOTHER AT LAST

Santa Monica, February 3.

Pretty actress Arlene Dahl, 30, and Argentine-born actor Fernando Lamas, 43, became parents of a son for the first time. The child was christened Lorenzo Fernando, probably to remind the little one of his Argentinian ancestry when he grows up.

Arlene Dahl, more known for her doll-like beauty than for substantial acting talent, has been happily married to Lamas for quite some time now in spite of rumours of separation. Her former husband was handsome Lex Barker who later married Lana Turner, while Lana's ex-husband Fernando Lamas is today married to Arlene.



A bed always excites memories in young girls. Sometimes they recall their dreams, sometimes their accidents. Madhubala seems to be rolling an accident in her mind in "Chalti Ka Nam Gadi", a thrilling romance produced by K. S. Films.

SLEEPING WITH MUSCLE

Los Angeles, January 27.

Jayne Mansfield's much-publicized romance with the athletic-looking Miklos Hargitay culminated in marriage at Los Angeles.

Miklos Hargitay, a Hungarian by birth, was "Mr. Universe of 1956." Now with Jayne Mansfield, a popular actress, for a wife, there seems to be a danger of Miklos being nicknamed Mr. Jayne Mansfield.

Jayne Mansfield, a blonde for screen purposes, has a purely mammary charm. And she showed it to good advantage in "Oh, For A Man" screened recently in Bombay.

AN OLD 'ROMEO'

Arlington, January 30.

Old in the tooth but young in spirit, 64-year-old Edward G. Robinson married 38-year-old Jane Adler, a one-time dress designer, in Arlington. For both it was a second marriage.

The tough guy of the screen, Edward G. Robinson had a meaty role as Dathan in "The Ten Commandments" who gets a ravishing screen dish in beautiful Debra Paget as Lilia. At the moment Robinson is busy with a Romeo-type role in Chayefsky's play "Middle Of The Night." No wonder the old guy turned 'romeo-antic'.

RAW FILM PLANT

New Delhi, January 27.

Kodaikanal in Madras State will soon be the hub of film activity for the Government of India is reported to have given its approval for the execution of an 8-crore raw film manufacturing plant to be constructed there with East German technical and financial collaboration.

A team of experts from East Germany had visited India in this connection a couple of years ago to select a suitable site. Now another team of experts will come to India to finalize the costly scheme.

The raw film factory, an ambitious scheme of its kind, is designed to produce 400 million to 500 million feet film of all types annually. It is a happy idea to have a raw film factory in India but we dare not rejoice till it really gets going. For in India, where every project gives birth to a dozen scandals, we often shudder when we start counting the crores that go down the drain without any visible or invisible benefit to the taxpayers.

PADMASHRI NARGIS IN COURT

Bombay, February 11.

Shri M. Nemazee, Presidency Magistrate at Girgaum Court framed charges against film actress Nargis alias Fatima Rashid for allegedly obstructing a police officer in his lawful duty and behaving in a disorderly manner by abusing him on October 1, 1955.

The charges were framed

under Section 186 of the Indian Penal Code and under Section 117 read with Section 110 of the Bombay Police Act.

At the hearing, the prosecution alleged that on October 1, 1955, Nargis stopped her car in the middle of the road and when asked to move her car out of the way she lost her temper with the sub-inspector and abused him: "You bloody swine, I will kick you."

Nargis pleaded not guilty to the charges. Further hearing of the case was postponed.

INFANT MELODY

New Jersey, February 2.

Shirley Boone presented crooner-hubby Pat Boone a bonny little daughter on January 30, 1958.

Pat Boone, the new singing idol, was seen in "Bernardine" recently. His next is "April Love" with some more hit songs.

FIGHTING TELEVISION

London, February 11.

For the last two or three years British exhibitors and film producers have been blaming television for the drop in cinema audiences. Now they are making a concerted drive to fight this menace of television by buying up the copyrights of old feature films for £500,000 so that they are out of the reach of television.

This money they hope to find by increasing a farthing per seat on cinema admissions, which money will form a fund for fighting television producers. They will also boycott producers who try to sell films for broadcasting and television.

Producer Sir Michael Balcon, however, refused to yield to these associations for he is likely to sell £200,000—worth of old Ealing comedies to television. While conceding the principle that the supply of cinema films to TV should be regulated, Sir Michael Balcon said: "I will not be dictated to or threatened by anybody. We will allow nobody to tell us how to dispose of our old films."

We agree with Sir Michael Balcon. A better idea would be to produce more spicy and entertaining pictures to compete with television programmes.

MOTION DISMISSED

Bombay, February 12.

Mr. K. M. Vakil, Judge of the Bombay City Civil Court, dismissed a notice of motion taken out by Mr. Jogindersingh K. Puri, proprietor of Life Arts, in connection with a suit filed by him against AVM Productions and others, praying for an injunction order to restrain the defendants from releasing their film "Bhabhi".

The defendants who had registered the title 'Bhabhi' in September 1957 had paid Rs. 1,000 to Mr. Puri as he claimed to have registered the title earlier with I.M.P.P.A. in 1955. The defendants, therefore, opposed the motion contending inter alia that no case for an injunction had been made out as damages would provide adequate relief to the plaintiff.

The Judge accepted the contention of the defendants and dismissed the motion.

ALL OVER A "DOLL"

Colombo, February 12.

The Ceylon Board of Film Censors banned Elia Kazan's "Baby Doll" on the ground that it was a degrading film. A special Appeal Tribunal appointed by the Prime Minister of Ceylon also found it a fit picture for banning.

But evidently some members of the House of Representatives did not like the Board's action of banning, because it was alleged that one of the members of the Board had imposed his will on the others in the matter of the ban. Mr. Anil Munnasinghe, Chief Government Whip, appealed to Mr. Jayaweera Kuruppu, the Minister for Cultural Affairs, to see the film himself and then judge its quality.

All for money! Some women live for money—and, of course, die for it too. Shammi, a competent actress, is facing both, her money and death, in "Bhagwan Aur Shaitan", an exciting adventure tale produced by Manmohan Sabir.

Mr. Kuruppu has now dismissed the present Ceylon Board of Film Censors and appointed a new board consisting of 11 members, including four women.

The new members will have a fresh code to guide them. One new member said that the Board would discourage foreign producers from "dumping" films of "low morals" on the people of Ceylon.

"Baby Doll" is one picture that deserved to be banned. It has the disgusting theme of seduction with objectionable dialogue. Even in the U.S. there were many who found it revolting.

NEW BABY-SITTER?

London, February 3.

Hungarian actress Eva Bartok is once again in the news because of her reported romance with the Marquess of Milford Haven.

But when questioned by reporters, the Marquess said: "These rumours are all made up. I'm saying nothing." The Marquess, however, has been calling on Eva practically every day at her country house since she got her "miracle" baby recently.

The Marquess is, perhaps, fond of baby-sitting. Anyway, he is getting the right training in case he decides to marry Eva.

TEETH OF GOLD

Monte Carlo, February 3.

In the Royal Palace at Monte Carlo, Princess Grace (former actress Grace Kelly) celebrated the first birthday of her daughter, Her Serene Highness Princess Caroline, with great fanfare.

The palace announcement described that one-year-old Caroline had grown six teeth and loved to play.

In India millions of poor mothers bring up their children without ever bothering to count the number of teeth in their mouth. But the destiny of a princess born with a golden spoon is different. Anyway Princess Grace has learnt simple addition as a sparetime hobby for a second baby is almost on way now.

THE SWEDISH 'GITA'

Hollywood, February 15.

Swedish women seem to have a charm that upsets the mental balance in Hollywood actors. A new Swedish charmer, Gita Hemingway, (in no way related to the famous Ernest Hemingway) is reported to have swept actor Barry Sullivan off his feet.

Barry first cast his eyes on Gita in Europe when he was acting in "Another Time, Another Place". When Gita came to Hollywood to work in "The Gun Runners", Barry chose the

TAYEBALLY
ESOOFALLY
42, ABDUL REHMAN STREET, PYDHONI, BOMBAY 3.
PHONE: 75508 GRAM: 'KALAVADIA'
High grown Nilgiri TEA

right time and the correct place to express his admiration for Gita. Today their romance is likely to end in marriage. Barry is only waiting for his divorce to become final.

ONE-FACED JOANNE

Las Vegas, February 7.

Charming 27-year-old actress, Joanne Woodward, married 33-year-old actor Paul Newman after some months of regular dating.

Joanne's performance in "The Three Faces Of Eve" won her the award as 1957's best actress, from the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures. But let us hope that the face she shows to Paul is not a triple one. It should always be the sunny-face if the marriage is to survive.

ROLE THAT COUNTS

New York, February 10.

Broadway is a great attraction to any actress. It is a challenge to her talent—to bring out the best in her.

That may be the reason why June Havoc, who was earning 15,000 dollars a week as a night club singer in Las Vegas last year, has come down to play in "The Infernal Machine" on 100 dollars a week at the Phoenix Theatre in Manhattan.

Said June: "This is my sabbatical year..... I'm going to give as much time as I can to the New York Theatre. I need it and want it. I'm going to stay on until I'm at the brink of starvation."

June appeared on Broadway in "Affairs Of State" in 1951. Her other popular roles were in "Mexican Hayride", "Sadie Thompson", "Dream Girl" and "They Knew What They Wanted".

June is evidently more anxious to get a good role rather than only money.

AUSTRALIAN TELEVIEWERS

Melbourne, February 6.

Though television was introduced in Australia only fourteen months ago, the Australians are reported to have taken to it very well.

Every month some 17,000 receivers valued at £(A) 3,500,000 are being sold. The rate of manufacturing television sets is likely to go up to satisfy the new craze for television.

The Japanese are already following the Americans in this television craze. And now the Australians have joined in that race.

'FAITH' OF GOLDWYN

New York, January 30.

Samuel Goldwyn, one of Hollywood's best showmen, believes that good pictures can still attract the crowds in spite of television.

To show that his "faith in Hollywood is greater than ever", Goldwyn will spend 5 million dollars of his own money on a picture.

Goldwyn differed from many who thought that the film industry was doomed to failure if the public saw old films on television. Said the optimistic Sam: "The more good pictures are seen on television the better it is for the industry. What is happening now represents a healthy revival."

Samuel Goldwyn is right. One should always strive to make a better than the best film.

WISE GIRL

Hollywood, February 8.

Film actor Tyrone Power is reported to have cooled down with Swedish actress Mai Zetterling. They were almost nearing the wedding altar when something went wrong.

Now Tyrone has switched on to Debbie Minardos, who is however not Grecian in spite of her Greek surname. Debbie, a girl from Memphis was once married to a Greek, and has a seven-year-old daughter by him.

Though pretty, Debbie is not keen on an acting career and wants to become a plain Mrs. Tyrone Power, whenever that happens.

It looks as if Debbie is the right one for Tyrone for even in Hollywood, a marriage and a career rarely go well together. One is often the death-knell of the other.

READY ONCE AGAIN

Mexico City, January 30.

Stage and screen actress, Faye Emerson, divorced her third husband, William Elliott Henderson, a bandleader, after seven years of marriage.

Luckily the Emerson-Henderson union gave birth neither to sons nor to daughters during those seven years. The blonde Faye seems to have pursued her career more than her hubby. Anyway, Faye is 40 and that is certainly not an age for becoming a recluse in America. She is ready for a fresh game once again.

GARDEN OF EDEN

Hollywood, February 15.

After some months of separation from his wife Marge, popular actor Jeff Chandler is likely to end it up in the divorce court. Jeff said: "We have been able to discuss our problems and make our decisions on an unemotional basis."

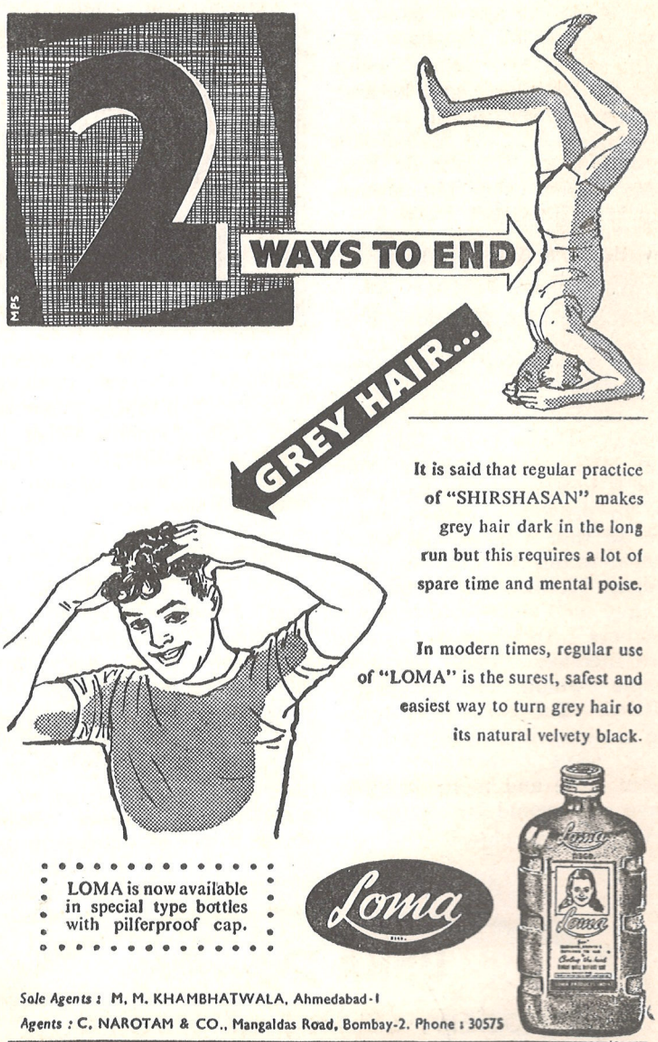
Jeff's new interest is said to be the screen's mermaid, Esther Williams, who has recently separated from her husband Ben Gage. The romance developed when Jeff and Esther were making "Raw Wind In Eden".

The permutations and combinations that go on in Hollywood's film world are endless. Where one finishes, the other takes off. And charming women, whatever their age, need never worry.

STALE CHINAMAN'S STORY

Peking, January 31.

We have read and heard about the "abominable snowman" for years now but Pai Hsin, a Chinese film-maker,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WAYS TO END
GREY HAIR...
It is said that regular practice of "SHIRSHASAN" makes grey hair dark in the long run but this requires a lot of spare time and mental poise.
In modern times, regular use of "LOMA" is the surest, safest and easiest way to turn grey hair to its natural velvety black.
LOMA is now available in special type bottles with pilferproof cap.
Loma
Sole Agents : M. M. KHAMBHATWALA, Ahmedabad-1
Agents : C. NAROTAM & CO., Mangaldas Road, Bombay-2. Phone : 30575
Shah Bavishi & Co., 129, Radha Bazar St., Calcutta. Delhi Medical Stores, Chandni Chowk, Delhi. J. Balabhai & Co., 260, Esplanade, Madras.
Agents : S. P. Mehta, 623, North Bridge Road, Singapore - 7
S. P. Mehta, 11, Malay Street, K. Lumpur, (Malaya).

claims to have seen not one but two 'Yetis' or "abominable snowmen" in the Pamir Mountains, way back in 1954.

Pai Hsin was then shooting a film on the three glaciers of Mount Muztahl Ata. At an altitude of 19,685 feet he saw these two men behind a mountain. Pai Hsin said that their footprints were similar to those of human footprints but bore traces of blood.

The Chinese and the Russians are good at spotting rare things. But why did Pai Hsin keep mum over these 'Yetis' for four years?

ANGLIN JOINS ANGELS

Toronto, January 30.

Veteran American stage actress, Margaret Anglin, died in Toronto at the age of 81.

Margaret, a Canadian by birth, began by taking small roles on Broadway and became famous in 1898 in the role of Roxanne in Richard Mansfield's production of "Cyrano de Bergerac". Her other big success was in "The Great Divide".

BALU'S TALL TALK

Bombay, February 10.

Speaking at a function held in his honour by the All India Radio Merchants' Association at the Taj Mahal Hotel, Bombay, on February 9, Dr. B. V. Keskar, Minister for Information and Broadcasting, said that it was for the radio industry to provide cheaper radio sets so that a large number of people would be able to own radios. He also told them that if they sold radio sets in large numbers, their profits would also increase, while the poor people would become radio-minded. The A.I.R. was building a network of powerful medium wave transmitters and hence more and more medium wave sets would be required.

We have no objection to people owning cheap or costly radio sets. But what entertainment does baldy Balu give us through the A.I.R.? Before asking the radio manufacturers to increase the production of radios, Balu should scrap the entire programmes of A.I.R. and make them more palatable for the masses, who don't want too much of the highbrow stuff that is thrust on them today.

Today, the Indian radios are busy tuning on to Radio Ceylon, Radio Goa, Radio Pakistan, Azad Kashmir, etc., leaving Balu's A.I.R. to himself and the white-capped Congressmen.

OUT OF TOUCH

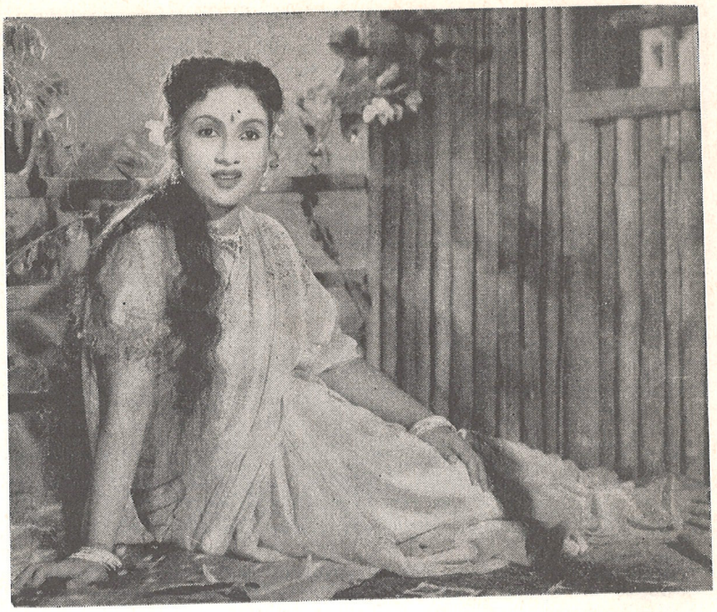
New Delhi, February 9.

Running down Indian films is a common pastime with many puritanic Congressmen. While we do admit that there are some bad films, we can't condemn the entire lot of Indian films and say that they are a disgrace to our culture and traditions.

At the meeting of the Export Advisory Council held in New Delhi recently, the Film Federation Chief, Mr. M. B. Bilimoria complained to Commerce and Industry Minister, Morarji Desai, that in the schedule for exportable items films had been classified along with Madras handkerchiefs, canned vegetables and onions. He wanted them to be treated on a different basis, as they were ambassadors of Indian culture.

Out came the reply from Morarji Desai: "I do not know whether films enhance culture. We have to be very careful about what we export."

At least we know that films like "Mother India", "Jhanak Jhanak Payal Baaje", "Devdas", etc. mirror a reflection of Indian art and culture. Morarji Desai is either a prude or he is out of touch with the film industry.



They grow some very attractive types in the South and no one in the North bothers to find out what manure the South Indians use for their soil. Here is a "noo" one, so fresh and refreshing that one feels like migrating to the South. Her name is Kumari Thangam and she makes her debut in "Lankeswaran", a mythological spectacle produced by M. V. Raman.

TASTE OF SUCCESS

Hollywood, February 1.

Popular novelist Ernest Hemingway has a grouse against Hollywood's film producers. Recently Hemingway had criticized Darryl F. Zanuck's "The Sun Also Rises" as being a travelogue showing only bullfights.

Nor is Hemingway satisfied with the money that he got out of the novels "A Farewell To Arms" and "The Sun Also Rises". Their copyrights were sold years ago for $16,000 and $15,000 respectively. The latter was then sold by Howard Hawks to 20th Century for 100,000 dollars.

Now Hemingway wants a big price for his "Across the River Into The Trees" which Producer Jerry Wald wants to picturize with Clark Gable in the leading role.

Success has changed the taste in Hemingway's mouth.

HEARTENING PICTURE

Bombay, February 1.

According to statistics compiled by the Indian Motion Picture Producers' Association, India produced 292 feature films in the year 1957. In 1956, the number was 296, the highest reached in post-war years.

The largest number of films were in Hindi being 115, Bengali 54, Tamil 45, Telugu 36, Kannada 14, Malayalam 7, Assamese 3, Punjabi 2, Persian 1. Bombay, as usual, led in the production of films contributing 127 from its studios.

Anyway, though quite a lot of trash continues to be produced, it is heartening to find the film industry struggling through a hundred odds and keeping up its chin high.

CHARGE OF MURDER

Bombay, January 18.

Film actor Raj Kumar, film director Prakash Arora and his brother Prabhu Arora, were produced before Mr. Jal H. A. Vakil, Presidency Magistrate, Bandra, on an alleged charge of murder.

Agents : M/s. Bombay Premier Trading Co., Bombay.

The prosecution alleged that on the night of December 25, 1957, the accused had assaulted R. Tulsidas, an electrical goods dealer, with a stick following a quarrel at Jayabharat Colony, in Khar. Tulsidas suffered a fracture of the skull and later succumbed to his injuries.

The police wanted more time to complete the investigations. The chemical analyser's report had not been received yet while some more witnesses were awaiting examination. The Magistrate remanded the accused to police custody.

TOURING CINEMAS

Hyderabad, February 3.

The Government of Andhra has taken a liberal view in respect of the granting of licences to permanent cinemas on the basis of population in any place.

The Government has directed that there shall be no restriction in case of permanent cinemas. But in case of a touring cinema, one will be allowed for places with a population of 10,000 and less, provided there is no permanent cinema. For a place with a population of over 10,000 and less than 20,000, two touring cinemas will be allowed if there is no permanent cinema. If there is a population of 50,000 and above, then three touring cinemas will be allowed in addition to a permanent cinema.

This seems to be a fair view of the matter. The touring cinema cannot be completely ignored in a country like India dotted with thousands of villages. It is one of the sole entertainments in many villages without permanent cinemas.

TOO MANY CINEMAS

Tokyo, February 10.

Tokyo, the capital of Japan, is not merely bursting with an extra burden of population. It has also 633 cinemas now as against 326 in 1953.

Now the Metropolitan Exhibitors' Union of Tokyo has decided to set up a committee to examine "would-be builders" before their applications are considered. This, they think, will prevent the growth of random cinemas in a city already crowded with hundreds.

TEMPTING THE ACTRESS?

London, February 14.

Princess Grace Kelly, who gave up a successful film career to become the wife of Prince Rainier III of Monaco, is reported to have received several offers from top Hollywood film companies to work in "just one more play". M.G.M. wants her to play the role of The Virgin in "Ben-Hur".

But Father Tucker, Grace's spiritual adviser, said, "I don't think she will ever go back to the cinema. If she asks my advice, I would certainly advise against it."

Grace is busy on the home front because she is already expecting her second baby. The Monaco atmosphere appears to breed babies pretty fast. And Grace can always utilize her acting talent to entertain the Prince.

FREEDOM FOR A WHILE

Hollywood, February 12.

Film actress Nina Foch has separated from her actor-husband John Lupton. She now lives in a separate apartment, all by herself.

Nina probably wants to enjoy some temporary freedom till she makes up her mind one way or the other. Nina had an important role in DeMille's "The Ten Commandments" as Bithiah, the Pharoah's daughter.

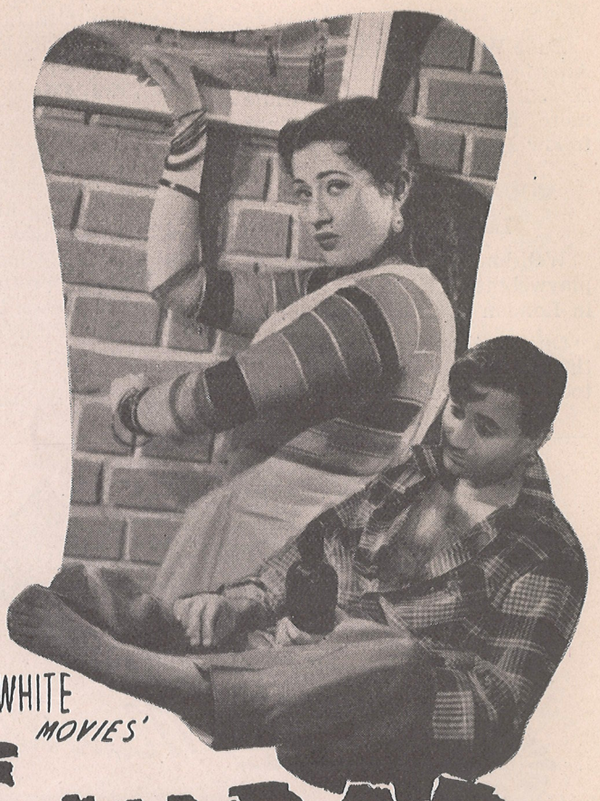
BABE'S SHOW

Tel Aviv, January 30.

Popular Brooklyn-born Negro singer, Babe Wallace, has decided to become a citizen of Israel. As Israel's naturalisation law allows double citizenship, Babe is likely to retain his American passport and rights.

Babe Wallace began his singing career 20 years ago in New York. He acted with Lena Horne in "Stormy Weather" and was the top star of the French Folies Bergere between 1952 and 1955.

At 48, Babe is as popular as ever and has many contracts with fashionable night clubs. He also performs once a week,



Starring :—

DEV ANAND ★ MADHUBALA

LALITA PAWAR ● DAISY IRANI ● TIWARI

AND

RADHAKISHAN

DIRECTED BY

RAJ RISHI

Music By

MADAN MOHAN

Produced By

KHUSHI & SETHI

——oOo——

SHORTLY TO BE RELEASED

ALL OVER BOMBAY CIRCUIT

THRU

BLACK AND WHITE MOVIE DISTRIBUTORS

5-K, 'NAAZ', BOMBAY-4.

the Babe Wallace Show, on the Voice of Israel.

Babe Wallace will be the first American Negro to become an Israeli citizen. After a while more American Negroes might follow Babe.

MOURNING A FRIEND

London, February 20.

Well-known film director and playwright, Adrian Brunel, died in London at the age of 66.

One of the early pioneers of the British film industry, Brunel took to film direction in 1920. Some of his best-known films are: "The Constant Nymph", "Variety", "The Man Without Desire", "While Parents Sleep" and "The City of Beautiful Nonsense".

Energetic and hard-working, Brunel kept himself busy round the clock making films not only in Britain but also in Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Algeria etc. He also wrote books, two of his recent ones being "Filmcraft" and "Film Production".

But Adrian, the friendly and intelligent Englishman, was more than a film director to Editor Patel. He was a dear, old friend and their twenty-year-old friendship was built on a bedrock of intellectual appreciation of each other. In the Golden Jubilee number of "filmindia" (April 1954) Adrian had written that like Bernard Shaw, Patel makes us think and "a further resemblance to show lies in the fact that Patel's method of arresting our attention is through the exercise of his gift of humour".

Adrian leaves behind a thirty-eight year-old son, Christopher, who is also in films, apart from hundreds of friends and admirers. Adrian's death is a personal loss to us but he will live long in our memory! May his soul rest in peace.

NO MORE RANI!

Calcutta, February 3.

Well-known Bengali stage and screen actress, Ranibala, died of coronary thrombosis, at her residence in Calcutta at the age of 42.

Acting was second nature with Ranibala and she made her stage debut in 1931 at the age of 15 in "Sati Tirtha". Later under the careful grooming of the famous Sisir Kumar Bahaduri, Ranibala became a full-fledged stage artiste adding many an important role to her successful career. Character roles were her strong point.

Ranibala also worked in many films side by side, some of her important ones being "Tulsidas", "Seeta", "Gora", "Vidyasundar" and more recently in Satyajit Roy's much-acclaimed "Aparajita" and "Parash Pathar" now running to packed houses in Calcutta.

Kind and unassuming, Ranibala will be remembered by her fans for a long time to come. May her soul rest in peace!

SQUEEZING OUT

Los Angeles, February 5.

Film people with their fabulous earnings are usually the target of income tax authorities whether it be in India or in America.

Recently the Federal Revenue Department, U.S., demanded 1,400,000 dollars by way of income tax from popular Producer-director Charles Chaplin, 47,090 dollars from actress Judy Garland and 2,382 dollars from comedian Chico Marx of the Marx Brothers.

The claim against Chaplin is against his incomes for 1953 and 1954. Chaplin, however, contended that he had been a Swiss resident since 1952 and the U.S. income tax laws did not apply to him.

Income tax authorities are like bloodhounds. They follow their victims mercilessly and cannot be pacified easily.

OUR REVIEW

"Fashion" Presents A Dull and Familiar Theme

Trite Tale Told With Abundant Stupidity

Tasviristan's "Fashion" is another celluloid statue erected to honour that favourite institution, at least on the screen, of Indian film producers, the traditional Hindu wife. Though the sentiment behind it is laudable in spite of its triteness, the statue itself bears as much relation to art and beauty as a snowman heaped up by schoolboys.

The shrilly melodramatic story, with abundant touches of exaggeration and plain stupidity, is presented on the screen with so little skill and imagination that one almost begins to wonder if these are among the commodities that the government has decided to drastically cut the import of. The result is that even though the picture has quite a few old home-truths to tell, they are never quite driven home. All that is driven by the picture is the spectator to a familiar headache.

TALE OF ERRANT YOUTH

The story concerns Kishore, a youth with no one to call his own except Shanta, his wife, and Kamla, his little daughter, and pots of money which have led him to adopt pleasure as his business. The trouble with Kishore is that he thinks, or at least likes to think, that Shanta is too shy and old-fashioned who sings too many "bhajans" before the family idol, covers her head with her sari and shrinks from facing his friends. She therefore attracts him no more even though she looks far from shabby and actually as glamorous as Mala Sinha portraying that role normally can.

Anyway, with the help of his friend, Kedar, the only one he seems to have in the picture, Kishore soon finds himself in Delhi delighting in the company of a flashy female who usually leaps on the stage but is equally proficient in doing the same into rich male beds. When after a month in Delhi, Kishore returns to Agra to his wife he reacts to her every soft word and loving gesture as if they were poison ivy. In short, he gives her hell. But dutiful Shanta tolerates it all.

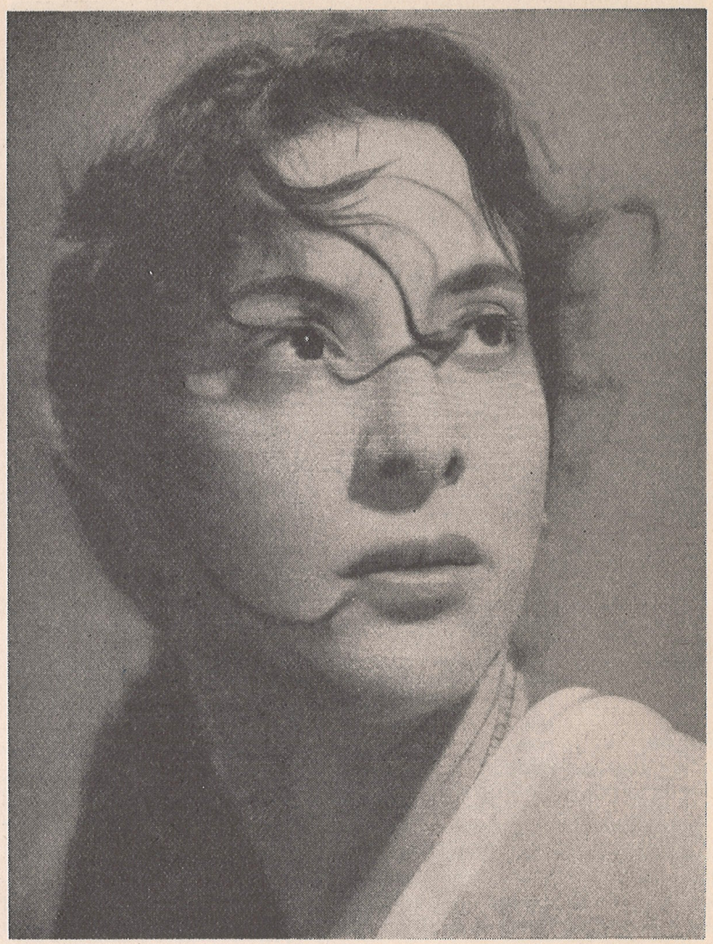
Once when he fails to return home till late in the night, Shanta, accompanied by a servant, visits Kedar to enquire about the whereabouts of her husband. Informing her falsely that Kishore was sleeping soundly in his room, Kedar sends the servant away on a most lame excuse and then tries to molest her. Barely escaping dishonour, Shanta returns home panting to find Kishore drunk and sleeping.

Next day she doesn't talk to Kishore about her ugly experience, but Kedar does and in a way that convinces Kishore that Shanta was unchaste. After that Kishore does not take long to throw Shanta out of the house. The traditional and suffering wife now decides to deviate a little from tradition and with revenge suffusing her heart offers to run away with Kedar—an offer that Kedar at once grabs at. However, once inside the train with him, Shanta determinedly plunges a knife inside him and then surrenders herself to the law which awards her a ten-year term in prison for the murder.

Kishore learns of the murder story but pays little attention to it being too busy with his stage-dancer who by now has shifted into his house along with her 'mummy' and tabla-player. Soon, in spite of the 3000 rupees she gets from him every month, the variety-loving whore gets tired of seeing Kishore's face every day and walks away with her entourage after hurling a shower of insults at him.

With his eyes now opened, Kishore rushes with his regrets and apologies to his imprisoned wife. Soon the prison gates are also opened for Shanta but she returns to her husband's home in Agra only after taking a promise from him that, as far as their daughter Kamla, now a young girl, is concerned he will keep up the story that Shanta was dead and introduce her to her daughter as an old friend of Shanta. The story works, perhaps because everyone who lived in Kishore's neighbourhood ten years before had now died or disappeared or lost his memory.

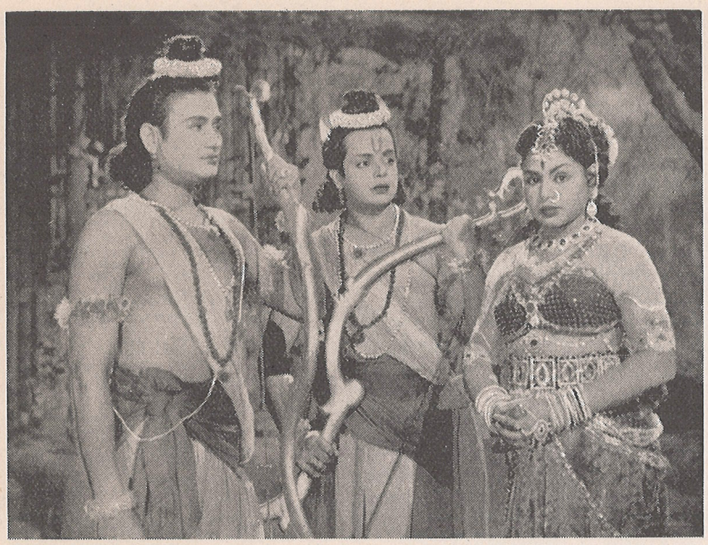
Now begins a second story involving Kamla, a girl who seems to believe that youth is meant only for displaying fancy dresses and inviting trouble, and her boy-friend, Shekhar. Fearing trouble, Shanta induces Kishore to bring the young couple together in marriage. But after the wedding, Shekhar, instead of celebrating a honeymoon prepares to murder Shanta for, to his bitter disappointment, she is willed all the property of Kishore instead of Kamla. The attempt however proves abortive and Shekhar is led off by the police. The picture ends with Kamla happy to discover her mother in Shanta and to get rid of a blackguard of a husband.



A desperate woman is a devil's delight. Neither she nor the devil knows what she will do next. God, ofcourse, never gets into the puzzle. He looks after the rest of the world. Nargis gives a sensational performance in "Lajwanti", a romantic tale produced by De Lux Films.

CRUDE STUFF

The production values of the picture are sometimes as crude as much of the story. The sets are ornate but idiotic. They reveal no recognizable architectural principle and suggest that the man who designed them has never observed in what kinds of houses human beings, whether rich or poor, normally live in contemporary life. The photography is average without being very exciting. The sound recording is erratic. The dialogue shows no dramatic punch or literary spark. It is often stupid. The music is tolerable though



This is obviously a mythological tale and you can see that women in those days were better fed than men. Or was the hand-pounded rice of olden days more nourishing? Anyway, men in those days had a more picturesque hair-do than women and they needed flowers to crown their tops. Ramdas, Balachandran and G. Shakuntala revive the ancient days of glory in "Lankeswaran", a spectacular tale produced by M. V. Raman.

familiar but, on the whole, rather disappointing. The direction is crude and clumsy.

From the players, Mala Sinha as Shanta is not very convincing. She does well in some scenes but in emotional ones she is found with her face either hidden or not-so-expressive. Pradeep Kumar as Kishore goes a shade better on his previous performances. But many more shades are called for, for effective acting. Kammo as the whore is passable. Jabeen as Kamla looks ugly and stupid. Much more so does her lover played by Chandrashekhar. This actor, it seems, will require a dozen coats of plastic make-up before he can have a presentable face for the screen. The one he owns now can be loved only by a relation. The man who plays Kedar deserves the gratitude of the spectator for getting killed early in the picture. He would have deserved more if he had disappeared earlier and most if he hadn't been seen on the screen at all. From the rest, Leela Misra as an old servant in Kishore's house reveals herself to be the good actress that she usually is.

In short, "Fashion" is an old familiar theme presented without skill, intelligence or imagination. As an entertainer, it gives a headache and in turn deserves to be given a go-by.

FASHION

Producers: **Tasviristan**
Language: **Hindustani**
Story, Screenplay & Dialogue: **Lekhraj Bhakri**
Lyrics: **Bharat Vyas**
Music: **Hemant Kumar**
Photography: **Ranjodh Thakur**
Cast: **Mala Sinha, Pradeep Kumar, Leela Misra, Kammo, Jabeen, Chandrashekhar and others.**
Released At: **Roxy, Bombay**
Date of Release: **21st February 1958**

Directed By:
LEKHRAJ BHAKRI

OUR REVIEW

"Mehndi" Entertainment For Masses

Dramatically Poor Tale With Popular Points

Umrao Jan Ada, they say, was a refined prostitute who lived in Lucknow a hundred years ago and who could lend her lips not only for fervent kisses and classical songs but also for reciting exhilarating Urdu poetry including her own compositions. But whether she actually lived or not, she does so with an uncommon vitality in the pages of Mirza Hadi Ruswa's novel which bears her name as the title.

Ruswa's "Umrao Jan Ada", written many years ago, is now regarded an Urdu classic and included in University syllabuses. Graphically written, the novel tells in a chaste and dignified language the sordid and pitiable story of a girl, not yet in her teens, who is kidnapped from her Fyzabad home and sold into a Lucknow brothel where she receives years of rigid training in the art of pleasing men before becoming the rage of the decadent city. Clearly not written to express moral indignation, the novel avoids sermons and just draws a portrait of one facet of life of the Lucknow of hundred years ago leaving the reader to draw his own conclusions. In point of time the story begins many years before the Indian Mutiny and ends some years after that turbulent event leaving the prostitute well past her prime and sadder and wiser.

Pushpa Pictures' "Mehndi" also purports to be a biographical account of Umrao Jan Ada. It has many characters in common with the novel but the incidents it shares with the novel are very limited in number. The producers do not reveal to us the source of their material but it is evident that they took off from the book even though they landed somewhere else. And the proof is the most appallingly absurd fact that in the picture there is a regular though rather silly character named Ruswa, while in the book Ruswa, the author, is a character only to the extent that he hears, with occasional interruptions, the story as it is narrated to him by Umrao Jan. In any case, compared with the novel the picture is a most coarse, colourless and commonplace affair. It lacks depth, imagination, proper characterization, a period flavour and any dramatic interest. As a routine entertainer, however, it has elements likely to appeal to masses, especially Muslim masses.

A PROSTITUTE'S TALE

The story as told on the screen shows Ameeran, a little girl, as a daughter of some sort of a judge. One of his friends informs the judge that Dilawar Khan, a man the judge had convicted some time back, was now out of jail and planning to take revenge upon the judge. Moments after that information Dilawar and his companions appear on the scene and forcibly carry Ameeran away. The judge is killed while resisting them. His wife and little son then take to mourning.

Dilawar takes Ameeran to Lucknow and apparently just makes a present of her to Khanam, the Madame of a prosperous brothel. Khanam changes Ameeran's name to Umrao and the little girl begins to learn to sing and dance. Soon she is a full-grown woman who sings and dances and recites verses before men but at the same time tries to point out in so many words and so many ways that the gathered men had no honour or virtue.

Called to visit one Sultan Sahib, she sings and dances there and soon falls in love with him. He is of course al-

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ready enchanted by her. Sultan now wants to marry her, for, believe it or not, Umrao is supposed to be a woman with her chastity intact right inside a brothel. Sultan has already a wife but she has failed to give him a child, so he doesn't find it very difficult to get married to Umrao. Ruswa helps to bring about the marriage which is however kept a secret from Sultan's mother.

Chagrined at losing her best earner Khanam soon sees to it that Sultan begins to suspect Umrao's faithfulness and throws her out of his house. But before this Umrao has already borne a son to Sultan and handed the little one over to his first wife.

Umrao now goes through some more trials and tribulations but towards the end all the characters meet together again in Fyzabad. There Sultan's misunderstanding is cleared away and while he gladly introduces Umrao to his mother as the mother of his son, Umrao has a tearful reunion with her long-lost mother and brother.

MEDIOCRE STUFF

The production values of the picture are mediocre. The sets are crude and cluttered. The photography is often erratic. The sound recording is neither sharp nor distinct. The dialogue is just bombastic Urdu. The music is tolerable in bits. The direction is messy and unimaginative.

From the players, Jayashree as Umrao Jan looks attractive in spite of uncharitable photography. Asking her to speak good Urdu, however, seems to be too much of a demand on her throat. She fails to do so. Ajit as Sultan lacks the mien and manners of a Nawab. He seems too crude for a Lucknowite. Balam as Ruswa manages to do well in a rather silly role. Veena as Sultan's first wife is effective. Lalita Pawar as Umrao's mother is too melodramatic to be pleasing. Kumar as a brothel character is unimpressive. The woman who plays Khanam is convincing. From the rest, Mirza Musharraf as another Nawab plays another stupid role stupidly.

In short, "Mehndi" is a poor tale dramatically and poor stuff cinematically. As a mass entertainer it has its points of popularity.

MEHNDI

Producers: **Pushpa Pictures**
Language: **Urdu**
Story & Screenplay: **Kamil Rashid**
Dialogue: **Kamil Rashid, Wahid Qureshi**
Lyrics: **S. H. Bihari, Khumar Barabanki, etc.**
Music: **Ravi**
Photography: **A. A. Kadam**
Sound: **R. G. Pushalkar**
Cast: **Jayashree, Ajit, Veena, Kumar, Balam, Lalita Pawar, Mirzá Musharraf and others.**
Released At: **Novelty, Bombay**
Date of Release: **31st January 1958**

Directed By:
S. M. YUSUF

OUR REVIEW

"Ek Saal" Provides Tolerable Entertainment

Portrayal of Love Versus Crime Theme

Goel Cine Corporation's "Ek Saal" is a moderately interesting story turned into a mediocre picture. The story doesn't look very original nor does it exactly seem capable of setting the Thames on fire, but it seems to contain enough material which, if properly kneaded and moulded, could have provided an absorbing motion picture.

It seems, however, that though they had sufficient straw with them, the director and the screenplay writer did not really care about making a brick. Instead, between them, they have come out with something that is long in wind, light in the head and leaden in the feet. But these virtues though they may be appreciable in a mother-in-law cannot be condoned in a motion picture. "Ek Saal" therefore fails to inspire although it is a tolerable entertainer on the whole.

LOVE CONQUERS ALL

The story concerns Sinha, a very unlikely looking retired colonel and his young and only daughter, Usha. While Usha is away in Lucknow on a pleasure trip, Sinha learns from a most unlikely looking doctor that his daughter Usha is suffering from a brain tumour which cannot be cured or cut away and that it will vanish only with the patient which event, the doctor confidently predicts, must happen within a year's time. The saddened father decides to keep the news from Usha and to make her as happy as he can as long as she lives.

Usha returns to her father closely followed by another character from Lucknow, Suresh, a professional crook who ostensibly desires to fill the post of Sinha's estate manager but actually hopes to loot the Colonel after gaining his confidence. Without bothering to even read his bogus testimonials Sinha gives the job to Suresh.

Soon afterwards Usha makes it plain that in addition to her father's estate she wants her romantic heart also to be entrusted to Suresh's care. In order to make an impression upon her father Suresh spurns the offer. The hurt and humiliated girl then faints and has to be put in bed.

The concerned Sinha, eager to fulfil his daughter's every wish, offers Suresh a fat monthly wage for pretending to respond to her love explaining to him how the girl wasn't expected to live long. Suresh agrees to play the lover for the price and duly informs his buxom parter-in-crime, Rajni, of the new development.

As the love game proceeds Suresh finds himself overwhelmed by Usha's innocence and sincere love and actually falls in love with her. He not only throws away a good opportunity to clean up the Colonel's overflowing strong-box but even refuses to accept the payment for his romantic services. Learning that a famous British surgeon was visiting Mussoorie Suresh accompanies Usha to the hill station and gets the surgeon to agree to operate upon her.

Furious at finding her co-crook going straight and unable to dissuade him from trying to climb out of his criminal world, Rajni decides to grease the stairs for Suresh and rushing to Mussoorie spills all the beans before Usha who is shocked to learn about her brain tumour and much more than that about the strange contract between her father and Suresh. Finally, however, she reaches the surgeon's table, gets rid of her tumour and, after some heart-burning, recognizes the reformed man and her genuine lover in Suresh.

ERRATIC PRODUCTION

As it is presented, the picture is almost completely devoid of emotional appeal and quite crowded with songs, crude clowning and the usual flotsam and jetsam with which Indian producers so often try to enliven the surface of their pictures.

Technically, too, the picture is not very happy. The sets don't impress. The photography is quite erratic. The sound recording is not quite satisfactory. The dialogue is rather dull, and at times ridiculous. The lyrics are not particularly inspiring. The music is pleasant in one or two songs. In one song there

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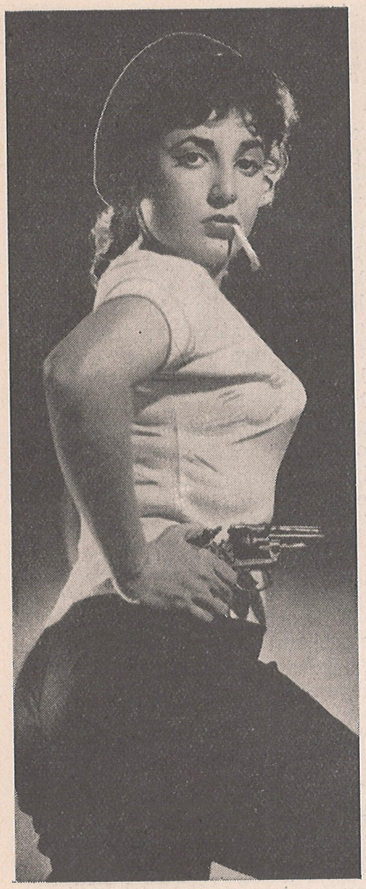


She has so many pointed things including a gun that it is a puzzle to choose one's real threat. Anyway, here's something one can expect from a modern Indian girl. At least that is what Producer-director Manmohan Sabir wants us to believe. We are sure, Shammi with so many points to her personality must be making "Bhagwan aur Shaitan", an exciting picture.

seems to be an attempt to provide a rehash of an old hit tune from "Mahal", the last picture in which Ashok Kumar and Madhubala teamed together. The direction is of a kind which the story did not deserve.

From the players, Ashok Kumar as Suresh gives a fairly good performance on the whole though in the beginning he is not quite convincing as a suave crook. Madhubala as Usha generally does well. S. K. Prem as Sinha is believable as a father but not as a retired colonel. The man displays nothing about him as the evidence of a long military career. Johnny Walker as a clownish private detective is too dull for words. Minu Mumtaz as his foil is passable. Kuldip Kaur as Rajni is hardly worth talking about.

In short, "Ek Saal" is a slow-moving, unconvincing told tale. It is, however, an entertainer that can be tolerated in a tolerant mood.

EK SAAL

Producers:	Goel Cine Corporation
Language:	Hindustani
Story:	I. S. Johar
Screenplay & Dialogue:	S. K. Prabhakar
Lyrics:	Prem Dhawan
Music:	Ravi
Photography:	Shanker A. Palav
Sound:	Kaka Modak, Gandhi
Cast:	Ashok Kumar, Madhubala, Johnny Walker, Kuldip Kaur, S. K. Prem, Minu Mumtaz & others.
Released At:	Roxy, Bombay
Date of Release:	24th January 1958

Directed By:

DEVENDRA GOEL

OUR REVIEW

"Lighthouse" Is A Dim Affair

Dull & Silly Picture Deserves To Be Avoided

Sippy Films' "Lighthouse" is a mighty dim affair. Dramatically, it seems to be equipped not even with a 5 candle power lamp and artistically its wattage is almost negligible. The story is an insipid concoction of crime, love and vampirism, while the presentation is a sorry tale of dramatic clumsiness and technical incompetence. In short, "Lighthouse" sheds no flattering light upon its makers and yields not a ray of enjoyable entertainment to the spectator.

A CRIME TALE

The story deals with Ashok, a "charming young man" according to the producers but a tired-looking, middle-aged man with his middle rather inflated according to the honest estimate of the spectator. Ashok is an artist in Bombay afflicted with an irresistible charm for a couple of women in whom he is not at all interested, at least romantically. One of them is Neela, a predatory female fond of sporting matador pants, long cigarette-holders and bare shoulders. She, it seems, has been pining for Ashok since long. But since he doesn't want her she seems to be left in life with nothing else to do except to smoulder along with her cigarette.

The other girl is Lalita, a friend and neighbour of Neela, who once acts as a model to Ashok and then, eager to act as his sweetheart, inveigles the unwilling artist into accepting her invitation to dinner. The girl then rushes to tease Neela with the news of the forthcoming dinner. Lalita's catty act proves expensive, for a few minutes before Ashok is expected to visit her flat for dinner, the jealousy—consumed Neela shoots her dead taking care to leave no finger-prints on the gun. Neela then phones up the police and confronts the bewildered but innocent Ashok just as he is bending over the corpse.

Pointing to all the evidence against his innocence and pretending to be his well-wisher, Neela persuades Ashok to flee from the scene of the crime. After giving statements to the police that succeed in implicating Ashok in the murder, she rushes off with him to a coastal village feeling satisfied that at last she had got Ashok to satisfy her thirsty passion.

Her hope is again frustrated for Ashok continues to be cold to her and soon adds insult to injury by falling in love with Bali, a local belle, who is shunned by the villagers as a hoodoo and compelled to live a dismal life with her father in and around a nearby lighthouse. While Neela keeps smoking, literally as well as figuratively, Ashok applies himself earnestly to the task of winning Bali's rehabilitation in the community. By the time he succeeds in doing that Neela is prepared to uproot Bali from this planet. She of course tries to kill her, not send her up in a Sputnik.

The attempt, however, fails and after some further rigmarole she makes another attempt on Bali's life. But this one turns into a successful attempt on her own life, and, as she lies dying, she makes a confession of her crimes in the hearing of a handy police officer. That leaves Ashok free from the clutches of law and free for the arms of Bali.

POOR ALL ROUND

The picture is as shabby in looks as it is dull in contents. The sets are quite ludicrously unrealistic. The photography is clumsy and inefficient. The sound recording is crude and careless. The dialogue is generally words without much sense. The lyrics are a literary monstrosity. The music is often as pleasant to the ears as the sound of a drill digging into a rock. The direction is thoroughly inept and unimaginative.

From the players, Ashok Kumar as the artist doesn't quite look the "charming young man" described in the booklet. In fact he looks a distinct misfit as a lover opposite the youthful Nutan. But he seems to act as well as one can in the company of a silly script and sillier direction. Nutan as Bali manages to appeal in spite of a piratical cameraman who seems determined to rob her of her good looks. Nigar as Neela smoulders adequately but in appearance she looks almost an extinguished ember. From the rest, Johnny Walker, as a clownish character, while trying to reach the spectator's funny bone only succeeds in getting on the nerves.

In short, "Lighthouse" is liable to lead to the rocks the entertainment-seeking boats of the picturegoers and the profit-seeking ones of the exhibitors. It therefore deserves to be neglected.

LIGHTHOUSE

Producers:	Sippy Films
Language:	Hindustani
Story:	G. P. Sippy
Lyrics:	Sahir
Music:	N. Dutta
Photography:	Roque Layton
Cast:	Ashok Kumar, Nutan, Nigar, Johnny Walker and others.
Released At:	Minerva, Bombay.
Date of Release:	14th February 1958.

Directed By:

G. P. SIPPY

Letters submitted for this section should not have more than 25 lines. Rs.5/- will be paid for every letter published in this section.

GOADED BY JEALOUSY

"The short-sighted policy pursued by the Income Tax Officers finds a parallel in the fable where the avaricious farmer killed the goose that laid the golden egg.

"Savant and philosopher that you are, you prefer to be the persecuted rather than the persecutor. Your ideas contained in "Grey Dust" and "Burning Words" will travel through time and posterity will place you in a safe niche while there will be no stone to indicate the whereabouts of the bones of the Income Tax Officers.

"When Jack London built a lovely villa after years of toiling as a writer his enemies could not hide their envy. When Jack London moved to his new house he found there was rubble and ruin where a few hours ago stood one of the loveliest houses in the States. Said he: 'It is better someone set fire to my house rather than I destroy the house of my enemy.' "

COLOMBO. **Mrs. T. S. Sameer.**

THROUGH THE WHITE CAP

"I could not help laughing when I read in the "Hindustan Times" on the morning of 15th January 1958, a report by its correspondent under 'West Bengal Newsletter' that the West Bengal Government was manufacturing biscuits on an experimental basis and hoped the introduction of the biscuits would help in reducing the consumption of cereals by the people. The biscuits baptised as 'Standard Biscuits' are made in two varieties, sweet and salted, consisting of 80% wheat flour and 20% groundnut, and were to be sold at eight annas per pound.

"Have the common people means enough to switch over to biscuits from rice? Will the introduction of 'Standard Biscuits' ease the difficulties of people or in any way help to overcome the shortage of foodgrains? These questions came to my mind and baffled me."

JULLUNDUR. **R. Kumar.**

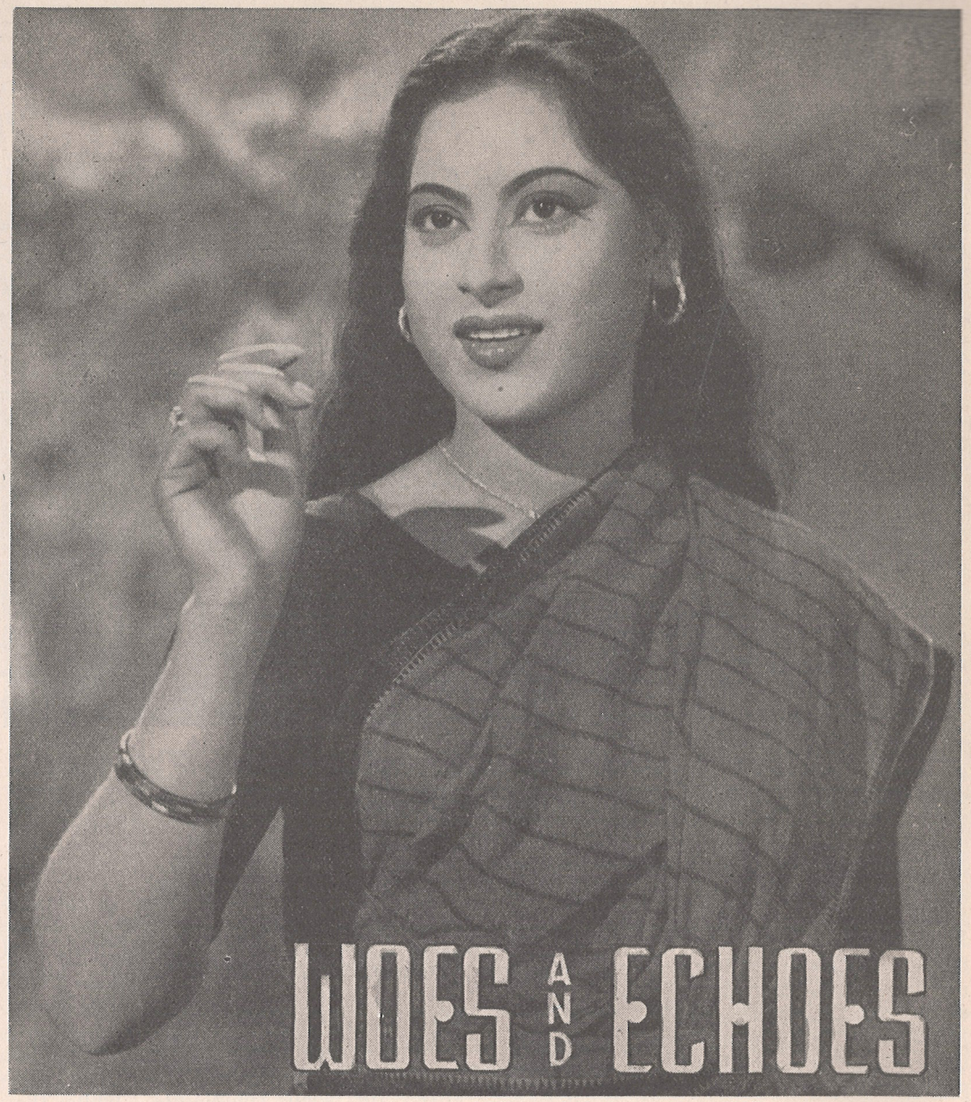
THROUGH THE WHITE CAP

"The "ring-leader" of the Lok Sabha, Mr. Anantasayanam Ayyangar, gave a wonderful piece of advice to the Members of the Chittor Bar. He asked them not to defend those who break the law.

"Guilt or otherwise of a person can only be established in a Court of Law, and through a system of cross and counter-cross examination. It is beyond my comprehension how a man of his status could tender such ridiculously improper advice to the lawyers.

"A lawyer cannot take the role of a Judge in the pre-judicial stage and deny legal assistance to anyone who seeks it. It will be good for some time at least if the Congressmen adopt silence as their language, if they cannot talk sense."

DONAKONDA. **A. Raghavan.**



At this age every man is a new packet of surprise. A woman is so ready to discover new qualities in the man she likes that the man is often flattered into a marriage. Love is a spider's web and the more a man struggles the more he is lost. Anita Guha brings new delight to the screen in "Chhooti", a love tale in Bengali produced by Priti Pictures.

ASKING TOO MUCH

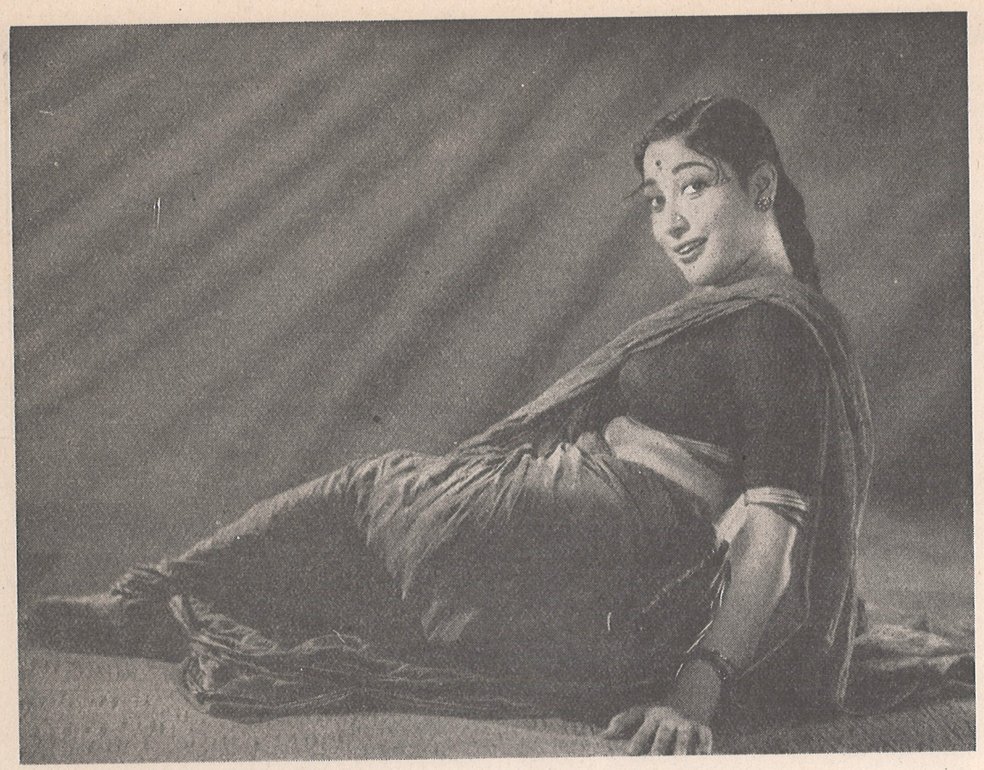
"Why don't the authorities place a roll of antiseptic paper in every public phone box to be used after every call? It is appalling to go into a kiosk and find the mouth piece damp from the previous caller's conversation. Such a "Clean Calls" campaign would do much to prevent colds and sore throat."

BOMBAY. **Mrs. Bhamini Pitale.**

SHOW ON EMPTY STOMACHS

"On two days in a year—on the Republic Day and the Independence Day—the entire nation is forced to become idle and go on a spree. As this quota of waste fell short this year by reason of the Republic Day falling on a Sunday, the Government, true to its traditions, declared the following Monday as a holiday.

"With a neighbouring nation which avowedly has no good intentions towards our country, arming itself to the teeth, with Sheikh Abdullah now openly preaching for the severance of Kashmir's ties with India, with the Naga rebellion still continuing unabated, with the foreign exchange crisis threatening the infanticide of the Second Plan, with famine looming large on the horizon, with so many disruptive and fissiparous tendencies in the country, how can we indulge in such plethoric pride in the past and completely forget the realities of the present?



Success puts weight in wrong places and spoils the rainbow of youth. Motion picture artistes must remember that people who pay at the box-offices come chasing the rainbow of youth and not for a leg of mutton. Mala Sinha must keep away from the dining table if she wants people to like her performance in "Phir Subha Hogi", a thrilling tale produced and directed by Ramesh Saigal.

"The Republic Day Parade at New Delhi is taking more and more the shape of the May Day Parade at Moscow. Unless we as a nation work hard and rededicate ourselves on these two auspicious days to the service of the country, I am afraid even the date of our Republic Day Parade will shift to the first of May!"

SHOLINGHUR. **H. Murli Rao.**

SECURITY TO RICH

"Whosoever designed the crest of the Life Insurance Corporation deserves a bouquet. The picture of a pair of upraised palms which may indicate prayerful attitude or protection for the "chirag" (flame) placed in between, is an admirable conception. The motto 'Yoga kohemam vahamyaham' is taken from the Gita where Lord Krishna says, "I bring full security". But it is difficult for us to take our tall-talking Congressmen at their face value and equate a government enterprise with the pledge of the Lord Almighty.

"It was in the second week of March 1957 that I gave some ten rupees as a premium advance for a life policy of Rs. 2,000. More than ten months have lapsed and except for an interview by a doctor, nothing has happened and I have yet to receive my policy or even a provisional receipt for the advance premium. How can I believe the Corporation that if something happened to me, my dependents would get prompt payment of the sum assured if this is the state of affairs even when I am alive? So I agree with your editorial asking us not to put all one's hard-earned money in the basket of nationalised insurance.

"I wrote one or two letters of complaint to the daily press. But they do not have space for such complaints, while they waste columns and columns of newsprint for the nonsensical platitudes of U. N. Dhebar—I doubt if anybody reads them at all—during the Congress mela. I congratulate you therefore on your frankness and boldness in criticising the life insurance scandal."

NEW DELHI. **A. C. Mauli.**

TRUTH HAS SUCCESSORS

"At a time when morality, public and private, is at a low level and we have a Government which gives birth only to 'scandals', many will agree with you that Mr. Feroze Gandhi is 'more honest and intelligent than many Congress scoundrels' and in view of his heroic efforts to wash in public the dirty linen of the corrupt bureaucracy and that too against the odds of perturbed 'yes-men' of the party, he does deserve to be the next one after Nehru. Thank God we have a ferocious 'Feroze'. But who will be the one after Baburao Patel in a country where even responsible newspapers are mere 'instruments of profit'? Have you kept anyone ready?"

CALCUTTA. **P. S. Easwaran.**

THANKS TO FEROZE

"I am happy about your editorial "Nehru's New Year Gift" and I appreciate the courage of a son-in-law in the absence of his father-in-law! The immediate effects of the editorial are encouraging in as much as the Government of India have been kind enough to institute a judicial enquiry in the whole affair. God crown Mr. Feroze Gandhi!

"I have started reading "Filmindia" quite recently and have not read your account of certain other scandals viz., the Sugar Scandal and the D.V.C. Scandal but after reading this editorial, I feel that these scandals too should be exposed properly.

"Wonderful indeed is the way of investment. The drops of blood collected by us all (those insured) have been put into the well of Shri Mundhra and the LIC wanted to put a lid over the well but as you know blood is different from water and must give a smell. Anyway, let us await the findings of the Chagla Commission.

NEW DELHI. **Sushil Kumar Dhawan.**

PRAISE FOR FEROZE

"I read your editorial in the 'filmindia' of January 1958 with great enthusiasm and you deserve thanks from me. The recent open inquiry of Mr. Chagla, has already revealed how the mischief was carried out. Mr. Feroze Gandhi, has rendered a great service to the nation by bringing this underground deal against the policy holders of L.I.C. into limelight. As you have rightly said, Mr. Gandhi has done much work for his people and no doubt will continue to do so. I venture to say that Mr. Feroze Gandhi is a far better and suitable person to succeed Pandit Nehru today than 'many professional Congress scoundrels dancing around Nehru'."

VISAKHAPATNAM. **P.V.L. Narasimha Rao.**

WELL-MEANT ADVICE

"I have received the January issue of 'Filmindia' in time as usual, and after reading your valuable editorial with serious thoughts—as I always do—"Nehru's New Year Gift", which is based on authentic facts and figures and not on fiction, I am extremely thankful to you for your timely advice to your readers in the last few paragraphs of your editorial and also take this opportunity of thanking our Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Shri Feroze Gandhi, for his exposure in the Lok Sabha of a new scandal of our socialistic pattern of society preachers.

"Shri Feroze Gandhi has rendered a great service to the nation by exposing

this fraud in which lakhs of rupees of public funds, which is a life's saving of poor and honest people, have been gambled by the Life Insurance Corporation of India.

"I entirely agree with your suggestions and views which are contained in the last six paras and I earnestly hope that at least the readers of 'filmindia' will not be swayed away by the impressive advertisements of the Life Insurance Corporation of India which appear in the money-making newspapers of our country. You have done a great service to your readers by giving them sound advice and I earnestly request, through your esteemed journal, that the public too should consider your views seriously before getting themselves insured."

NEW DELHI. **O. P. Saxena.**

GROW MORE BEARDS

"Save, save, Baburao! Save us from being converted into Sikhs by the Government in this secular state of India. Since T. T. K. took the charge of Finance in his hands, the prices of imported blades are getting higher every day. The 7 o'clock blades which formerly used to cost only one anna now cost 19 n.P. each and Gillette blades cost still higher. Indian blades like Bharat, Panama and 6 Morning, though cheap, work like a rough sickle in the field which simply pull the hair out of the skin and make the whole face bathe in blood. If at all we go to the shop of a barber for shaving purposes, there is already a huge rush of people there, sailing in the same boat. We then have to miss our college or office, and because it is an every day business we have to undergo this ordeal every day.

"Brutality we cannot show towards our face (we believe in non-violence) by using these Indian manufactured blades, time we cannot waste at the shop of a barber daily, and 19 n.P. we (i.e. an average Indian) cannot spend daily on the imported blades which mean a lot in the long run. Then what should we do? Do our Five-Year Plans want that we should all leave shaving and become Sikhs?"

DELHI. **Jagdish Jain.**

CLINGING TO POWER

"In November 1956 Mr. L. B. Shastri, the then Minister for Railways, G.O.I., resigned from his post because of the Ariyalur Railway disaster. (Six months later of course he came back to the Government as a Minister with another portfolio, but that is another matter).

"Since then there have been about three railway disasters, the last and most serious being one at Mohri (near Ambala) and where according to preliminary reports 34 persons have been killed (and the number may be larger) and about 100 seriously injured. Mr. Nehru while fully supporting the "Constitutional propriety" of Mr. Shastri's resignation, had given out that 'he himself might well resign, if the railway administration gave further cause for such serious complaints.' Now should we expect that both Jagjiwan Ram (the Railway Minister) and Nehru will resign? Let us hope the latter at least will not miss this grand opportunity!"

GAYA. **Rajeshwari Prasad.**

In olden days men handled women as softly as they handled bullocks in the fields. But women of those days seemed to like the strong touch. It always guaranteed a good performance in their personal relationship—a guarantee which modern sissies can never give. Purnima and Prem Nath make an exciting team in "Son of Sinbad", an old adventure tale produced by Neo Lite Films.

EQUALITY IN THEORY

"Our country is a Democratic Republic. Our Constitution proclaims equality as the corner stone of our Republic. After centuries of slavery we find ourselves masters of our own country. However, our slavish mentality has not yet gone.

"Every minister is looked upon as a demi-god. All big wigs in the Government imagine themselves to be great Nawabs. What a fuss the police make when a minister visits a place!

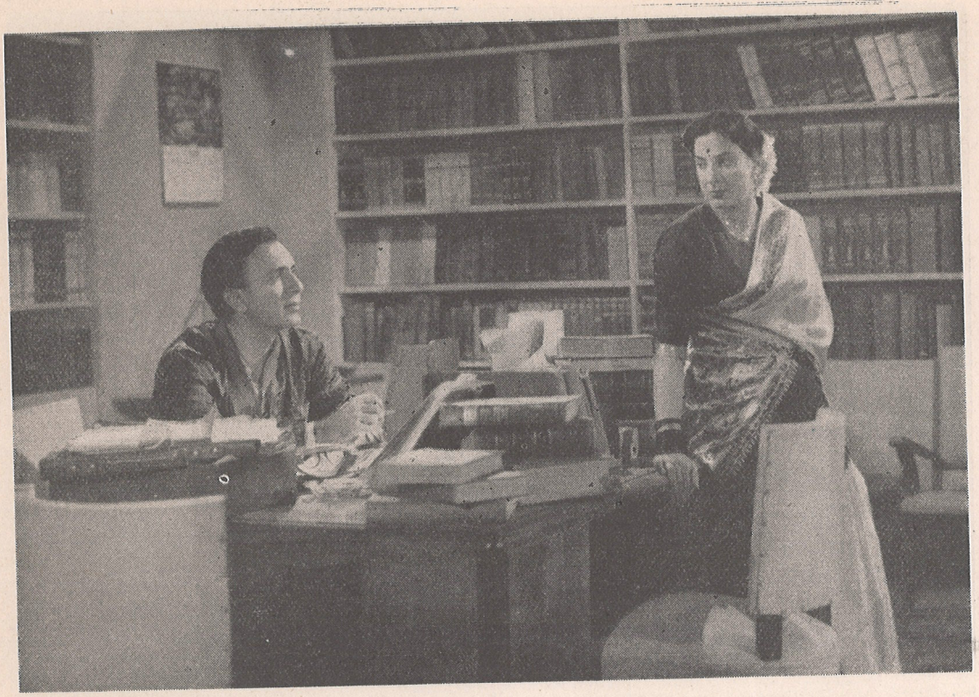
"A train was stopped at a way-side station for nearly two hours because the Governor of the State was to pass through a level crossing a few yards from the station. A train's departure from a station at the scheduled time was held up for nearly half-an-hour because a State Minister was late in catching the train! The daily worshippers were not allowed to enter the sanctum sanctorum of a temple for about two hours because a State Minister and his family were expected to offer their prayers to the deity. Discrimination in the very presence of God! While I concede that the V.I.P's should enjoy certain privileges, I feel that the instances cited above are an insult to human dignity and do violate the principles of equality embedded in the Constitution. Do you agree, Mr. Patel?"

SHOLINGHUR. **H. Murali Rao.**

WHITE-CAPPED PRUDERY

"About a fortnight ago I was listening to a programme of replies to listeners' letters from the Vividh Bharati of All India Radio. The announcer, in reply to a question as to why the Vividh Bharati could not procure more film songs for its listeners, said that such a thing could not be done as they had to maintain a certain standard of decency also. According to him this was the spirit which guided the Vividh Bharati in the arrangement of its programmes.

"But just a day or so later I was shocked to hear the song: "Jadoogar saiyan chhoro mori baiyan ho gai adhi raat ab ghar jane do", which was being broadcast in one of its programmes of film music viz. "Man Chahe Geet." For a moment I could not understand as to what standard of decency this song conformed. But soon I realized that these



There is no law in romance. Love is a disease the symptoms of which vary according to the hearts in conflict. Between Balraj Sahni and Nargis, however, it seems to be a case of cool calculation. Both seem to have been burnt once. Let us see what they are about in "Lajwanti", produced by De Lux Films.

self-styled moralists had no other aim than to befool the common folk. Otherwise can't they imagine how will a person, who has actually not seen the picture interpret this song? Mr. Patel, what do you call that?"

JULLUNDUR. **S. Prakash.**

LURING THE YOUTH

"Some companies have sprung up recently which promise to get young movie-struck boys and girls jobs in films as heroes and heroines. They say that they have influence with certain producers and directors of standing and thus extract money from innocent youngsters. As there is nothing in writing between the two parties, the law can do precious little in the matter.

"It is alarming to see that the number of such companies is increasing by leaps and bounds. It seems as if this is a very lucrative profession, with no capital and substantial gains. People should beware of these parasites.

"Some young girls who are either lured by the glittering glamour of the city or who wish to live a life of luxury and ease, are attracted by these companies, only to find themselves ultimately in the red light district in Bombay. Unfortunately, as most of these young girls are illiterate it is difficult to drive these dangers home to them.

"It is a problem for the social worker to tour the countryside and the villages and enlighten the residents of these places about such dangers. It is the duty of citizens to bring the nefarious activities of those who run bogus companies to the notice of the authorities."

BOMBAY. **Krishin J. Hemrajani.**

CAUGHT AT LAST

"It was a surprising news item to read in "Filmindia" (December issue) that for the first time in this country, plagiarism was punished in a court of law and that the erring producer was ordered to surrender all the prints of his film "Begunah" to M|s. Paramount Pictures from whose "Knock On Wood" it was plagiarised. This action by the learned judge should be a stern warning to other Indian producers who are bent on making capital out of the situation where nobody bothered to prevent this questionable practice. And because of this, there might even now be many such "Indianised" versions of films which are half-way through.

"As regards the past, we have had quite a number of films which were inspired partly or wholly by Hollywood ones. For example, Kardar's popular social "Dastan" owed its story to the English film "Enchantment" (starring David Niven), while his "Jadoo" was nothing but a carbon copy of Columbia's "Loves of Carmen" (starring Rita Hayworth). Again, that lovable and sensational comedy hit "Fabulous Senorita" found its echo in the unabashed "Albeli" (starring Geeta Bali), and the spectacular Biblical classic of Cecil B. deMille "Samson and Delilah" had a very poor imitation in "Aurat" (with Prem Nath as the "Indian" Samson!) Comparisons will be endless. It is high time such shameless efforts were stopped. One way of doing this would be to publicise widely the recent case wherein a producer was penalised for plagiarising. Will the Indian Motion Picture Producers' Association come forward to do this?"

NEW DELHI. **K. S. S. Narayanan.**

REQUEST FROM SINDHIBHAIS

"It is regrettable that the Sindhi Programme has not been given due importance by the All India Radio at Jaipur. About 3-lakh Sindhis, who have settled in Rajasthan, are thus denied the pleasure of enjoying a programme in their own language. From time to time the various Sindhi Organizations have approached A.I.R. Jaipur authorities, but without avail. May I, therefore, request the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, through your popular column, to instruct A.I.R. JP for the regular broadcast of the Sindhi Programme?"

AJMER. **Arjun B. Karnani.**

BALU'S SLEEPING MINISTRY

"We have at the Films Division Auditorium, New Delhi, two shows of one hour each of certain documentaries every day. We have one difficulty in this connection and sincerely hope the authorities concerned will look into it soon.

"Unlike other advertisers of pictures, the Ministry of Broadcasting and Information does not give us information in the papers as to what the different documentaries are about. We have to look at the various papers' comments on Sunday whereas the change of programme of documentary shows is effected every Friday. Isn't it better if the Government of India which is spending money on these shows didn't keep their intention a secret?"

NEW DELHI. **Sushil Kumar Dhawan.**

BUREAUCRATIC WASTE

"Mr. Patel, through these columns of your esteemed magazine, I take the opportunity of suggesting to the Government, in these days of economy, to reduce its expenditure on staff cars. If I am not mistaken, the expenditure of Central and State Governments will fall by quite a few crores of rupees. Is it not a fact that in a majority of the cases, these cars are utilized by the higher officers only! Don't you agree that with the pay and allowances of these officers they should keep their own cars? Don't you agree that staff cars are utilised by those officers who have their own cars? In these hard times is it desirable to waste public money like this?"

DELHI. **Satish S. Gupta.**

THE OLD DODGER

"Thank you for publishing my question, "Pandit Nehru wears a red rose. Why?" in your November 1957 issue. You said, "He has no time to wink. So he displays a permanent poster to attract a crowd." Recently I had an opportunity to meet Pandit Nehru, being one of the Russian Language students. I put him the same question which Nehru replied thus: "Because I love flowers, specially red roses." I said again, "But I have heard a lot of stories regarding your red rose." Raising his hand carelessly he said, "Sab bakwas hai (that is all humbug)." Mr. Patel, what are your comments on his reply?"

NEW DELHI. **Kuldip Khosla.**

A.I.R. FOR HIGHBROWS

"The radio is becoming popular among the middle class families and they are ordinarily fond of listening to film music. But thanks to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, the All India Radio has reduced the scope of film songs from the daily programmes and is thrusting classical music upon the ears of the people despite their adverse reactions. The result of the people's resentment is seen in the popularity of the Ceylon Radio which is earning enormously large sums from our advertisements.

"It pained me the other day to find a family listening to records from Azad Kashmir Radio which often uses filthy and abusive language after the relay of every film record for a few minutes. The tone of the language and the attacks on the person of our national leaders boil one's blood but one is unable to check the people listening to such programmes for they are prepared to tolerate any damn remarks to fulfil their desire to listen to the film music.

"The Ministry concerned should look into the matter and arrange to introduce more film music on the radio to cater to popular taste."

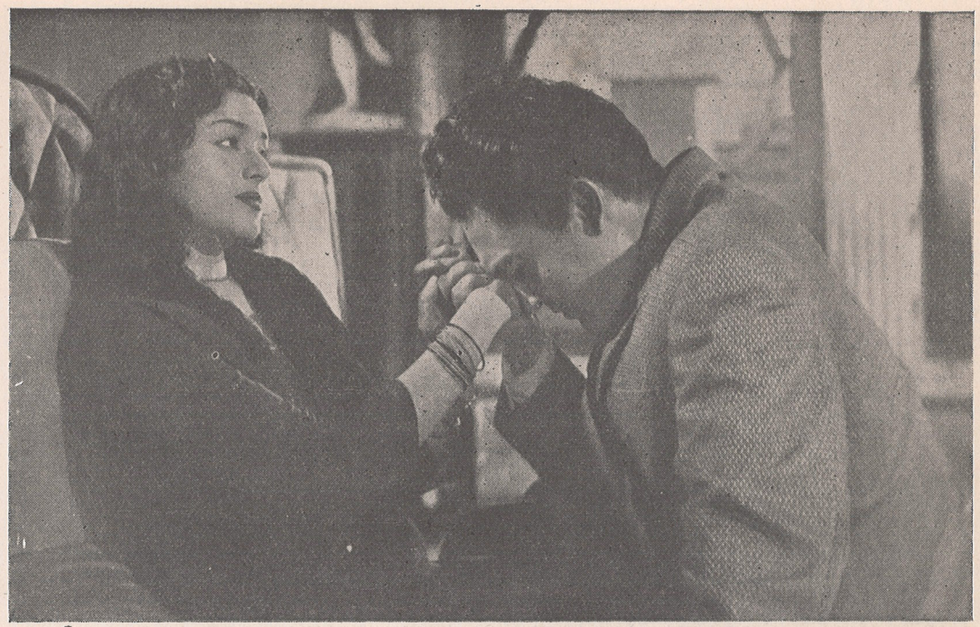
JULLUNDUR. **K. K. Bhardwaj.**

IN THE NAME OF SERVICE

"Some cases of misappropriation of money by some social organisations are reported to have come to light recently. Some chosen few move in jeeps under the brand of 'Social Service', blindfold the poor villagers by their familiar slogans and tall talk, and do nothing substantial to fill the empty stomachs of the poor village folk. Their work seems to be to hold public meetings on decorated rostrums and to preach the starving to swallow air in the beautifully constructed parks and maidans.

"Why can't the Government stop squandering money on these organisations which are deliberately meant to increase the private happiness of a chosen few at the cost of thousands who pay the taxes but get nothing in return?"

UDIPI. **B. Prabhakar Kamath.**



At last! She has now got him where a woman likes her man to be. Remorseful and submissive, man is most vulnerable in such moments and becomes an easy victim of the patient, planning woman, Padmini and Ashok Kumar bring some thrilling drama to the screen in "Ragini", a sensational theme produced by Ashok Pictures.

DIGESTED COURTESY

"With profound interest, I read your editorial of December issue titled, "Cockroaches Of Nehru's Cabinet". I restrain myself from praising you for your wonderful articles lest it should be mistaken for flattery. I am sure, every enlightened Indian (barring of course, a few bureaucrats, officials and diehards) endorses your views without a second thought.

"In my view we are not worried 'too much' about T. T. K. for it is the Indian people themselves, who have to face the whip of his power. But a discourtesy, as shown by our Jeep Jack in an international institution, cannot be forgiven—nay! forgotten (who are we to forgive him?) so easily. One can safely expect a high standard of courtesy from a person who has spent a good part of his life in Britain, —Britishers being the most courteous people. But then exceptions make the rule and Menon is the exception. Perhaps, he has distributed all his courtesy among the Britishers without reserving anything for himself—too generous a lad! Isn't he?"

DEHRA DUN. **Manohar Lal Virmani.**

LOWERING PUBLIC TASTE

Hollywood is a place which produces good and bad films—but the bad ones revolving around sex, violence, murder, brutality and all the baser sentiments of human beings, seem to find their way into India sooner than the good ones.

"It is the duty of our country wedded to principles of peace, love, non-violence and brotherhood to discourage such films, which demoralise our innocent people and break our happy homes, with all the vigour at our command. Of course, our Censor Board is very strict in this matter but sometimes it is also caught napping and instead of drastic cuts they order only minor cuts.

"Moreover, one aspect which has escaped the Government is the objectionable advertising done by the producers and distributors of these films. Here are a few samples picked up at random from publicity blurbs. "Untamed...unkissed...unashamed Bride For Sale", "It is the spiciest enticing bedtime story filled with love, laugh and lilting melodies," "The hilarious story of a man who killed for the fun of it," "Tingling Romance", "To the gunrunner and rebel, revolution ravaged Mexico was like a woman ripe enough for any man with guts enough and guns enough to take her", "She flaunted his hopes, taunted his dreams, turned his peaceful valley into a volcano of seething passions," "French model drives model husband wild," "Torrid love scenes, lascivious lasses and tantalising curves". Several rare pieces of this kind can be cited.

"Let us hope the Government acts quickly and stops this glaring injustice."

BOMBAY. **Jaikishan Bhagat.**

That is the modern expression of happiness. If the old-fashioned folks like us think that all this looks a bit crazy, the modern folks don't care. This is their notion of civilized behaviour which motion picture producers are teaching the new generation. Let us see what Shammi, Johnny Walker and the usually sedate Nutan are about in "Aakhri Dao", a social melodrama produced by Movie Stars.

RED LIP SYMPATHY

"People in Ceylon today are in the midst of the worst disaster in Ceylon's history—the destruction caused by the floods. India was the first country to rush to our aid and for this we are eternally grateful. It is an ironical fact that whilst Ceylon did not offer any aid when such disasters occurred in India in the recent past, India has been offering aid to us at both official and private levels. It is also a notable fact that a good portion of the contribution to our Flood Relief Fund has been made by Indians in Ceylon and India. On behalf of my countrymen I offer a big 'thank you' to you all.

"Whilst many foreign countries have been rushing aid to us, our new found friend—the U.S.S.R.—has not given us aid in any form or shape to overcome this terrible disaster. Beyond the contribution of Rs. 15,000|- by the Russian Red Cross Society, not one cent, not one vial of drugs, not one inch of clothing has been offered by the Government of the U.S.S.R., who are diplomatically represented here. From a humanitarian point of view the attitude of the U.S.S.R. is surprising and from a political point of view it supports the argument, naive as it may sound to the converted, that Communism flourishes on misery and despair. What do you think of this, Mr. Patel?"

NAWALAPITIYA. **S. Suntharalingam.**

REQUEST AND SEE

"With the craze for the wide screen in some of the local theatres, I find that the advertisement slides and the Indian newsreels, etc., do not fit in properly. They look like so many square pegs in a round hole. It hurts our artistic sense very much.

"Pray, aren't we justified in demanding better showmanship for the money that we pay at the cine-counter?"

BANGALORE. **C. S. N. Murthy.**

A BAD BEGINNING

"About a fortnight ago I and a friend of mine had been to Chandigarh, the new capital of the Punjab, on which the Punjab Government is said to be spending crores of rupees to make it the most modernized and luxurious city in the north. We had also an opportunity to go into one of the modern cinema houses there, which looked quite impressive from outside.

"But when we entered the hall to see the picture 'Nausherwan-e-Adil' in the last show, we were amazed to see the condition of the furniture which was even worse than the roughest cinema house of Delhi. The floor was not at all cleaned after the evening show. And worst of all, the people were freely smoking in the auditorium with the result that it became very difficult to see the picture in that smoky atmosphere. When the show was over, my friend went to the lavatory, which was immediately locked from outside by the management without even taking the trouble to see if there could be someone inside the lavatory and specially when the show was over. This is the condition of a new cinema house in the new city which is going to be the pride of India. Should we call it a good start for the people of Punjab?"

DELHI. **Jagdish Jain.**

AN ANGRY PROFESSOR

"Like many other people I have admired your wit and candid criticism of the state of affairs in India for a long time. Your article on "Cockroaches Of Nehru's Cabinet" in the December 1957 issue of Filmindia touches an all-time sensible high point of honest journalism.

"I have lived several years in Europe, the United Kingdom, and am presently in Canada. I have found everywhere in the West a great regard for India and a real desire to help India in her many problems. In North America, especially, there is tremendous sympathy for India, and together with this sympathy there exists a widespread desire and real ability to help India in her economic betterment.

"Surely, as you point out so admirably, help cannot be sought and obtained from other countries by abusing them. Krishnamachari goes to the United States to beg for money, and abuses the Americans. This man is never tired of using the 'first person singular'—always I, I, I, T. T. Krishnamachari. One really wonders where Nehru picked up a man of such outrageously inflated ego, uncouth and ill-mannered.

"V. K. Krishna Menon has done greater harm to India's prestige abroad than all other stupid persons and events put together. Rudeness and bad manners are his forte, and he is conceivably the greatest problem in the diplomatic field.

"It is certain that India can get all the foreign aid she needs, if only Nehru and his cronies would stop playing the holy cow and start behaving as normal, decent, civilized human beings at home and abroad. They have been heroes far too long; now they look ridiculous.

"Should you be good enough to publish my letter, please pay Rs. 5|- to any charity unconnected with the Congress or the Government of India."

CANADA. **J. Mehra.**

(Rs. 5|- sent to the School for the Blind, Dadar, Bombay—Editor.)

VOTE-CATCHING DEVICES

"Nowadays there is so much talk and legislation about jail reform. Recently a producer has made a film on jail reform also. Though these are good devices to catch votes and collect money by playing upon the sentiments of the public, there is great apprehension that they will only serve to increase crime. I give my reasons as under.

"Every citizen knows the tortures of personal inconvenience and legal delays to which a complainant is subjected, once he involves himself in the processes of law. An average law-abiding citizen is therefore reluctant to risk such an involvement, by reporting a crime. Hence, of the crimes actually committed, only a microscopic percentage is reported to the Police. Of those reported, a deplorably small number is detected, thanks to the efficiency of our Police. Again, of those detected, fewer still are successfully convicted in a court of law. A criminal knows all this, and if he is further to be assured that conviction and sentence mean nothing more than a holiday for growing vegetables, what deterrent will there be to committing crime?

"There is no other way, therefore, but to make an example of those very few criminals who happen to come into the clutches of law, with severe punishments. Otherwise committing crimes will be a profitable business and will result in nothing else but the increase in the number of "ear-nose-throat specialists", as you have called them.

"I do not deny that often times punitive measures in jail harden a criminal and make him, when released, a greater danger to society. Undoubtedly, such a result must be avoided.

"And so while our politicians are making it softer for the criminals inside the jails, they are making it harder for the benign citizen outside. By playing upon our sentiments the politicians are robbing us of our votes while the subjects of those very sentiments are robbing us of our noses and throats."

POONA. **S. V. Ketkar.**

See how it is done! Now a girl who can do that with such ease and grace is a problem in the marital market. She will want the man to do the same to complete the picture of art in the home. And that chap's office trousers will resent the artistic stretch. Anyway meet Lalitha Rao in "Konjum Salangai", produced by M. V. Raman.

LIVE AND LET LIVE

"It is distressing to know that the transport authorities here in Delhi are planning to stop the plying of 4-seater rickshaws and are asking the present owners to give up their rickshaws and apply for a licence for the plying of scooters or taxis.

"The authorities are either being guided by a fool's decision or there is a lack of intelligent people in the Transport Authorities Office. The authorities are probably not aware that this is the only cheap and most convenient conveyance available to the general masses and if this too is withdrawn, the inconvenience the general public would have to suffer would be great. The D.T.S. buses are useless seeing the way they are now plying on the roads. The behaviour that is meted out to the public by the conductors and other allied staff is too rough and rude and the self-respected citizen usually avoids travelling in such a conveyance. These workers are made conscious only of their rights and not of their duties by their unions.

"And now looking to the other side, the fares by scooters and taxis are beyond the approach of the general masses and even their availability on all routes is not guaranteed. These taxi and scooter owners very frequently go on strike on many minor matters and this adds to the inconvenience of the public.

"Before asking the 4-seater rickshaw pullers to stop plying their vehicles, the authorities would be advised to suggest means and methods of improving the mode of conveyance suggested by them. Or are these stupid officers, brought up on corruption, thinking of only one side of the subject and want to favour some automobile dealer who has stocked this kind of vehicle?"

DELHI. **N. K. Malhotra.**

FEROZE'S GIFT

"Please accept my heartiest congratulations for your masterly editorial, "Nehru's New Year Gift" which I and many like me got as a New Year gift from you. You warned the people in time and saved lakhs of rupees of the poor people from going into the "gutters".

"The last paragraph is really the most important one because the majority of poor Indians don't have even a pie to buy "phutaha and lai" (fried gram and rice). They can't afford to lose their insurance money.

"We have faith in Feroze Gandhi. This son-in-law, we feel, is likely to do everything to root out corruption, nepotism, favouritism, etc. which his father-in-law Pandit Nehru has not been able to achieve.

"Long live, Feroze Gandhi and the democracy of our nation!"

MUZZAFARPUR. **Mrs. Anpurna Sinha.**

culture
shines
equally
in
rags
as
well
as
in
riches....

PARVARISH

★ing: **RAJ KAPOOR** ★ **MALA SINHA**

LALITA PAWAR ★ **NAZIR HUSSAIN** ★ **KRISHNAKANT** ★ **MAHMOOD** & **RADHAKISHEN**

DIRECTION: **S.BANERJI** ★ PRODUCED BY: **MAHIPATRAY SHAH** ★ MUSIC: **DATTARAM** ★ ART: **KANU DESAI**

LYRICS: **HASRAT JAIPURI** ★ DANCE DIRECTION: **SATYANARAYAN** ★ WRITTEN BY: **SAGIR USMANI** ★ CAMERA: **C.S.PUTTU** ★ SOUND: **E.M.SURATWALA** ★ EDITING: **MAHADIK**

ASHA ADVTS

Distributors:

BOMBAY: M/s. Ahuja Films, Bombay.
DELHI, U.P. : M/s. Ashoka Films (1957), Delhi.
C.P. BERAR: M/s. Madhusudan Pictures, Bombay.
MYSORE: M/s. Hema Film Exchange, Bangalore.
NIZAM: M/s. Musical Films, Secunderabad.
WEST INDIES, FAR EAST & AFRICA ONLY: M/s. International Film Distributors, Bombay.
BENGAL: M/s. Kapurchand & Co., Bombay.
EAST PUNJAB: M/s. Deepak Pictures, Jullundur.
C.I. RAJASTHAN: M/s. Shri Films Corporation, Indore.
TAMILNAD: M/s. Hansa Pictures; Bangalore.
MIDDLE EAST: M/s. M. Dialdas & Sons, Bombay.
CEYLON: M/s. Brightland Pictures, Bombay.

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PICTURES IN MAKING

DOSSI FILMS (Bombay)

Producer Fali Mistry has completed many sequences of "Chanddan", a social, starring talented Nutan opposite Kishore Kumar. Directed by that popular director M. V. Raman, "Chandan" has a generous sprinkling of sex appeal, there being no less than four charming belles in the picture. Here they are: Nutan, Shyama, Mala Sinha and Kamala Laxman. And with Fali Mistry's beautiful photography, the picturegoer is likely to be confronted with beauty in every frame of "Chandan". Others in the cast are Pran, K. N. Singh, Karan Dewan and Johnny Walker.

D. S. FILMS (Bombay)

Two more songs of "Hathkadi" were picturized by director Sudershan Bhatia at the Filmistan and Bombay Talkies Studios. "Hathkadi" stars the veteran actor Motilal and attractive Shakila and has an absorbing story. And Motilal's realistic acting imparts to "Hathkadi" most of its dramatic moments. In the supporting cast are Jabeen, Sajjan, Amarnath, Leela Misra, Ramesh Sinha, Mirza Musharaff, etc. "Hathkadi" is likely to be ready for release in another month. Nashad is reported to have given a lilting musical score.

GEMINI STUDIOS (Madras)

Anything worth doing is worth doing well, seems to be Producer-director Vasan's motto these days. In fact it is not just 'doing well' but doing it excellently. One has only to see the rushes of "Raj Tilak" to believe in this truth. Packed with drama, spectacle and excitement, "Raj Tilak" must appeal to the masses. Vyjayantimala, Padmini and Ganesan constitute a star cast with suitable support from Jagirdar, Pran, Lalita Pawar, Kumar, Agha, Master Romi, Manmohan Krishna, Shammi and Meenakshi. Both Vyjayantimala and Padmini have contributed graceful dance numbers in "Raj Tilak" giving the picture a repeat value. Some of the songs tuned by C. Ramchandra appear to be potential hits. "Raj Tilak" is scheduled for an all-India premiere early in April.

AVM PRODUCTIONS (Madras)

Producer A. V. Meiyappan is an ardent follower of Nehru and he firmly believes in Nehru's popular slogan coined a couple of years ago: "Aaram haram hai". As if to prove this, Meiyappan launched two Hindi socials at the AVM Studios, Madras, recently. One is a social, based on the Tamil hit "Naalvar", starring Shyama and Ashok Kumar as a pair of romantic lovers. This one will be directed by Raja Paranjpe. Others in the cast are Baburao Pendharkar, Jagdeep, Mainavathi, etc. Music is by Madan Mohan. The second social is called "Sautela", a powerful emotional drama woven round mother love and directed by Prabhudayal. "Sautela" will not contain any songs or dances as the story has enough material in it to attract the crowds. The cast consists of Usha Kiran, Arundhati Mukherjee, Baby Honey, Chand Burque, Balraj Sahni, etc.

MEHBOOB PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Producer-director Mehboob and his wife Sardar Akhtar flew to London on February 26, to get the international version of "Mother India" with English sub-titles ready for the Hollywood Academy Award. From London the Mehboobs will fly to Hollywood. For the first time the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and sciences in Hollywood chose to nominate an Indian film for the foreign language award of the Academy. And that is a unique distinction. Four other foreign films have been nominated by the Academy but we shall not be surprised if "Mother India" comes out triumphantly in the end. For "Mother India" is truly a classic of the screen and is still drawing packed houses at the Liberty, Bombay

Not all women are born and built to dance. Those who hold the head high in dignity can rarely bend it like a blade to capture the grace and rhythm of a dance. But producers always make mistakes and here is a beautiful mistake in a none-too-beautiful costume. Nutan obviously flirts with a dance in "Aakhri Dao", a social theme produced by Movie Stars.

and in many other cinemas of India.

PARIJAT PICTURES (Bombay)

Indian producers have time and again been attracted by Dostoevsky's Russian classic "Crime And Punishment" but Producer-director Ramesh Saigal who has adapted this novel in "Phir Subha Hogi", has given it a new interpretation. With two fine artistes like Raj Kapoor and Mala Sinha, "Phir Subha Hogi" has plenty in it to wring tears from the audience. Mubarak, Jagdish Sethi, Kamal Kapoor, and Nana Palsikar are cast in important roles. Lyrics by Sahir Ludhianvi have been tuned melodiously by Khayyam.

EAGLE FILMS (Bombay)

"Mujrim" starring Ragini and Shammi Kapoor and directed by O. P. Ralhan was released in Bombay and Calcutta during February 1958. The picture is running well because of the suspense inherent in the theme of the story combined with O. P. Nayyar's catchy music. "Mujrim" is Ragini's first Hindi picture and she makes a favourable impression on the Hindi picture-goers.

ANUPAM CHITRA (Bombay)

Producer-director Mahesh Kaul is busy giving the Kaul touch to "Talaq" which he is producing jointly with Pandit Mukhram Sharma. In "Talaq", the hero, Rajendra Kumar, marries a girl out of love and then finds an incompatible temperament in her. The conflict of these differences on their only child forms a major part of the drama of "Talaq" and it is here that we see Mahesh Kaul at his best. Kamini Kadam, a new find, makes her debut as the leading lady while Ashwini, Yashodhara Kathju, Sajjan, Kusum Thakur, Radhakishan and Lal Bahadur lend suitable support. Pradeep has composed the lyrics, set to music by C. Ramchandra.

ROOPKALA PICTURES (Bombay)

Producer Mahipatray Shah has begun the shooting of "Parvarish" starring Raj Kapoor, Mala Sinha, Lalita Pawar and others. One scene, picturized recently, was a celluloid wedding between Mala and Raj, in which Mala was dressed up as a glamorous bride. S. Banerji is directing "Parvarish". A newcomer Dattaram is reported to be in charge of music.

MEHTAB FILMS (Bombay)

Young and modest director C. P. Dixit, who scored success in his first assignment "Naya Admi", is reported to have done a good job of "Kabhi Andhera Kabhi Ujala" starring Nutan and Kishore Kumar. The shooting of "Kabhi Andhera Kabhi Ujala" is now in full swing at the Mehboob Studios and the picture will be ready for release before long. Nutan will execute a dance number in this picture for which she is being trained by dance director Hiralal.

DE LUX FILMS (Bombay)

More than half-way through is "Lajwanti" directed by Narendra Suri starring Nargis and Balraj Sahni. Producer Mohan Sehgal, who has many box-office hits to his credit, has put in the usual punches that bring the dough home. And popular music director S. D. Burman has done his bit ably to make "Lajwanti" a sure box-office success.

Fali Mistry Sprinkles Sex Appeal in "Chandan" —"Hathkadi" Has Many Dramatic Moments— —Vasan's Spectacular "Raj Tilak" Nearing Completion—Shyama And Ashok Kumar Play The Lovers In AVM's New Social—"Mother India" Nominated For Academy Award—Raj Kapoor And Mala Sinha Wring Tears In "Phir Subha Hogi"—"Mujrim" Running To Crowded Houses—"Talaq" Gets The Kaul Touch

There is so much of jewellery in the South that producers cannot help but heap it on women's heads. It is the glitter of this jewellery which took T. T. K. back to Madras. Vyjayantimala gives an excellent account of herself in "Raj Tilak", a classic of entertainment produced by Mr. Vasan for Gemini.

RAMAN PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Producer-director M. V. Raman is working on three productions simultaneously, and yet giving to each picture the necessary time and care to make them different from the usual rut of pictures. "Jwala" is the most ambitious of them all, with an all-star cast and in Technicolor. Madhubala plays the romantic lead opposite Sunil Dutt with Pran, Sohrab Modi, Ullhas, Raj Mehra, Randhir, Vijaylakshmi, Lalita Pawar, Jagirdar, Mukri and Kamla Laxman contributing their bits to the exciting drama. The story of "Jwala" has been written by Chandilyan, a writer from Madras. Music is by the Shanker Jai Kishen team. "Apna Paraya", a Jayashree starrer, has made steady progress while "Konjum Salangai" in Tamil is not far behind. Director Raman picturized a beautiful Bharat Natyam dance number put over by Kamla Laxman in her inimitable style for this picture which is in Technicolor. Gemini Ganesan is cast as the hero.

NARASU STUDIOS (Madras)

"Sitaron se Aagey" which took a long time for completion owing to the change in directors, is now ready for release. Starring Vyjayantimala and Ashok Kumar, "Sitaron se Aagey" is a story about a film career versus a home. And the moral that flows from it is that a housewife had better stick to a home instead of chasing a film career.

Printed by Yusufali Nensey at the Onlooker Press, Sassoon Dock, Colaba, Bombay 5, and published by him for Sumati Publications Private Ltd., from 55, Sir Phirozeshah Mehta Road, Fort, Bombay.